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New Wave Wrestling™

New Wave Wrestling #11

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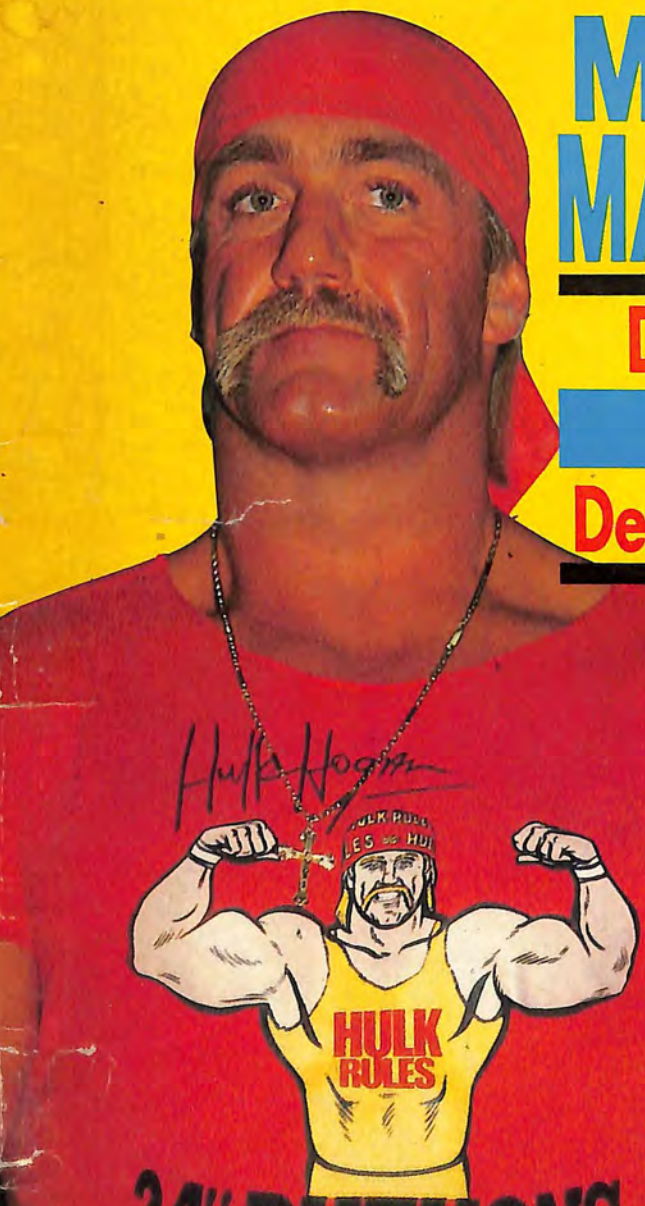

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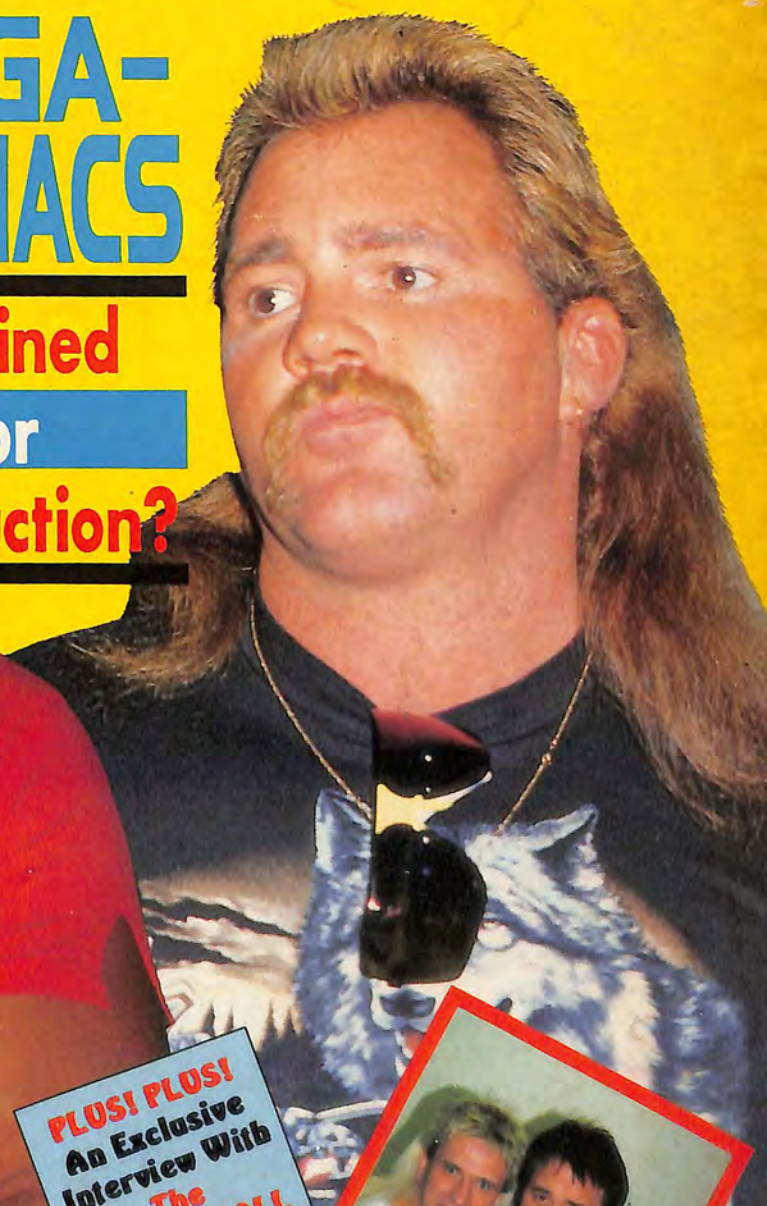

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GREATEST SPORTS LEGENDS: BRUNO SAMMAKTINO – Highlights the career of the former WWWF champion in action against the likes of Spiros Arion, Stan Hansen, "Killer" Kowalski, Ernie Ladd, Gorilla Monsoon, Buddy Rogers, and others (color).

WRESTLING'S GREATEST VILLAINS –Ten exciting bouts, plus interviews featuring Grahams vs. Antonino Rocca & Miguel Perez; Fred Blassie vs. Hangman; Buddy Rogers vs. Abe Jacobs; Killer Kowalski vs. Yukon Eric; Fritz von Erich vs. Bobby Brown; Millers vs. The Kangaroos; Johnny Valentine vs. Crusher; Gorgeous George vs. Larry Moquin; Volkoffs vs. Dick the Bruiser & Hans Schmidt; Lou Albano & Tony Altemore vs. Jack Allen & Bavarian Boy (90 minutes, b&w).

WRESTLING'S GREATEST HEROES – Ten matches and interviews featuring Lou Thesz vs. Vic Christy; Rocca vs. Benito Gardini; Eduoard Carpentier vs. Baron Scicluna; Bruno Sammartino vs. Magnificent Maurice; Ricky Starr vs. Karl von Hess; Verne Gagne vs. Larry Hennig; Gene Stanlee vs. Kola Kwariani; Bobo Brazil vs. Johnny Barend; Sam Steamboat vs. Mike Sharpe; Great Scott & Antonino Rocca vs. Karl & Eric von Hess (90 minutes, b&w).

SGT. SLAUGHTER Vol. 1 – See The Sarge in action against Larry Zbyszko, Boris Zhukov & battle royal excitement (color).

GREATEST AWA CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES – Features Rick Martel vs. Jumbo Tsuruta; Nick Bockwinkel vs. Verne Gagne; Rick Martel vs. Michael Hayes (color).

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BIG-TIME WRESTLING Vol. 4 Warren Bockwinkel vs. Wilbur Snyder. Bonus — An interview with "Crippler" Davis (b&w).

BIG-TIME WRESTLING Vol. 5 "Sockeye" MacDonald vs. Wilbur Snyder, in a two-of-three-falls bout. (b&w)

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New Wave Wrestling™
VOL. 1, NO. 11 – JUNE 1993

CONTENTS

PG. 18

PG. 35

PG. 52

MAIN EVENTS

8 Kerry: A Warrior No More!
"The Modern Day Warrior" has finally found peace.

10 Rassle Rap: Paul Roma
An incredible in-depth interview with this sensational tag-team specialist!

18 Ring Legend Spotlight: The Rock & Roll Express
In this issue, we provide double the excitement and action in an exclusive interview with both Ricky and Robert!

28 The Nasty Boys: The Unlikeliest Heroes of All!
Have the fans accepted their "nasty-to-nice" transition?

35 Warrior Woman: Crystal Blue
Misty Blue's younger sister discusses her transition from karate champion to grapplerette.

38 The Mega-Maniacs: Destined For Destruction?
Will "the Barber" become Hulk's next archrival?

44 Next Generation: The Power Twins
This pair of heavy-duty hombres are sure to make their mark.

48 The Legion of Doom: Their Rise and Fall
Were Animal and Hawk victims of too much of a good thing?

52 The Bushwhackers: Beloved Blokes
Don't let these 270-pound teddy bears fool you. They can be as mean and aggressive as any other top tandem!

BONUS FEATURES

6 Next Wave Newsreel—News & views from the major leagues.
14 Nostalgia Zone—Great moments from the glorious past!
39 Independent Scene—News from the popular regional groups.
42 Pen–Pal Universe—Make new international mat friends.
54 International Slams—Current reports from around the world.
58 Candid Contenders—Paparazzi pixs of your fightin' favorites!

ADDED ATTRACTIONS

17 Hidden Word Contest!—Here's another brainbuster!
26 Weird Wrestling Tales —Need we say more?
60 Mike's Mailbag—More letters from our *New Wavers!*
61 Pinformation—The column dedicated to answering all of your fascinating questions!

Cover Photos:
Hulk Hogan and Brutus "the Barber" Beefcake *(Matt Lexington)*, Crystal & Misty Blue *(Jon Simmes)*, and the Rock & Roll Express (Bob Murphy).
Back Cover Photos:
The Bushwhackers and the Moondogs *(Jerry Wilson)*, Sting and Hiroshi Hase *(Koichi Yoshizawa)*.

New Wave Wrestling™

OFFICIAL PRO-WRESTLING RANKINGS

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION TOP-TEN HEAVYWEIGHTS

1. Bret "Hitman" Hart
2. Yokozuna
3. Hulk Hogan
4. "The Narcissist" Lex Luger
5. Giant Gonzales
6. Shawn Michaels
7. The Undertaker
8. Randy "Macho Man" Savage
9. Curt "Mr. Perfect" Hennig
10. Tatanka

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION TOP-FIVE TAG TEAMS

1. The Steiner Brothers
2. The Mega-Maniacs
3. The Nasty Boys
4. Money Incorporated
5. The Headshrinkers

INTERNATIONAL TOP-TEN HEAVYWEIGHTS

1. Steve "Dr. Death" Williams (U.S.)
2. Riki Chosyu (Japan)
3. Big Van Vader (U.S.)
4. Stan Hansen (U.S.)
5. Keiji "The Great Muta" Muto (Japan)
6. Bret "Hitman" Hart (Canada)
7. Tatsumi Fujinami (Japan)
8. Terry Gordy (U.S.)
9. Dave "Fit" Finlay (U.K.)
10. Genichiro Tenryu (Japan)

INTERNATIONAL TOP-TEN JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHTS

1. Jushin "Thunder" Liger (Japan)
2. Brian Pillman (U.S.)
3. Pierroth (Mexico)
4. Chic Cullen (U.K.)
5. The Samurai (Japan)
6. The Ultimate Dragon (Japan)
7. Danny Collins (U.K.)
8. 2 Cold Scorpio (U.S.)
9. Dean Malenko (U.S.)
10. Konnan El Barbaro (Mexico)

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING TOP-TEN HEAVYWEIGHTS

1. Big Van Vader
2. Barry Windham
3. "British Bulldog" Davey Boy Smith
4. "Nature Boy" Ric Flair
5. Sting
6. "Ravishing" Rick Rude
7. Paul "Mr. Wonderful" Orndorff
8. The Great Muta
9. Ron Simmons
10. "The Natural" Dustin Rhodes

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING TOP-FIVE TAG TEAMS

1. Steve Austin & Brian Pillman
2. Ricky Steamboat & Shane Douglas
3. Z-Man & Johnny Gunn
4. The Wrecking Crew
5. The Cole Twins

INTERNATIONAL TOP-TEN TAG TEAMS

1. Hell Raisers — Hawk & Power (U.S./Japan)
2. Terry Gordy & Steve Williams (U.S.)
3. The Steiners — Rick & Scott (U.S.)
4. Bam Bam Bigelow & Big Van Vader (U.S.)
5. The Rock & Roll Express (U.S.)
6. Mitsuharu Misawa & Toshi Kawada (Japan)
7. Scott Norton & Tony Halme (U.S./Europe)
8. "Sweet" Stan Lane & Dr. Tom Prichard (U.S.)
9. Los Brazos de Oro y Plata (Mexico)
10. The Bruise Brothers (U.S.)

INTERNATIONAL TOP-TEN WOMEN

1. Aja Kong (Japan)
2. Bull Nakano (Japan)
3. Bison Kimura (Japan)
4. Terri Power (U.S.)
5. Tomoko Watanabe (Japan)
6. Monster Ripper (Puerto Rico)
7. Reggie Bennett (U.S.)
8. Misty Blue (U.S.)
9. "Yukon Erica" Dutkowski (Canada)
10. Nicki Monroe (U.K.)

MICHAEL O'HARA
Publisher/Editor-In-Chief

ROMA O'HARA
Managing Editor

TAMKIN GRAPHIX
Art Direction

ALLAN BATCHELOR
Illustrator

DAVE CAMERON
SANDY DeLUCA
KATHY DOWD
BILLIE JESSEE
KOICHI YOSHIZAWA
Associate Editors

STEVE BRYANT
GREGG LALKA
BOB MURPHY
JON SIMMES
JERRY WILSON
Photographers

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COMMENTARY
FROM THE CUTTING EDGE
by Publisher/Editor MICHAEL O'HARA

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL READERS OF *New Wave Wrestling!*

Hello, New Waver! As always, let me start off this truly titanic tag-team extravaganza, with my thanks for your patronage. I know that your local magazine shop is chock-full of various rassling publications, but you have the common sense, nay, the superior, discerning taste as a true-blue ***New Waver*** par excellence to accept nothing less than the best.... which is ***New Wave Wrestling*** (naturally!).

Now that I've expressed my admiration for ya, I must ask for your patience as ***New Wave Wrestling*** continues to "learn the ropes" of the publishing trade.

As many of our eagle-eyed indicia readers have discovered, we have not been able to adhere to our monthly schedule. Our reason is simple: We're a relatively new and very small (but growing!) company. Each ***NWW staff member*** is performing jobs normally held by ten professionals at a status quo, corporate publishing house! (Whew! It ain't easy being underdogs. We're tired, but we're tenacious!) Remember, gang, ***New Wave Wrestling*** is only a little more than one year old.

To all of our nifty newsstand readers and sensational subscribers, please bear with us. The stress and strain of designing, typesetting, writing, distributing, et cetera, has ALL of your ol' pals at ***New Wave*** putting in an unbelievable amount of hours per week in order to put out, what we feel to be, the most informative mat mag on the market. Compare the results. We know what you want, and we do our piledrivin' utmost to make every issue a bliss-filled, cornucopia of rhapsodic rasslin' revelry.

So how could I dare call this a commentary, without extolling a few paragraphs of my own, trademarked ballyhoo. Hold on to your turnbuckles, here goes....

Recently, I had an interesting conversation with Mike Reynolds of *Inside Media*, a magnificent media-trade publication. We discussed pro-wrestling, and, by the time our chat had ended, it became clear: Wrestling is on the verge of a major upheaval.

In the not-too-distant future, the grappling game will have to choose between being an electronic broadcast or an arena event. It's painfully obvious, by the latest attendance figures, that it can't be both.

Pay-per-view is the bread and butter for the major-league promotions. The arena shows are now an expense rather than a profit-generating source. Prior to the ppv phenomenon, the weekly broadcasts were used as one-hour commercials to entice fans into the arenas. Today, syndicated and cable TV still play that role, but you can add the live-arena events to the hype list. The regional bookings have been devalued by the promotions (whether consciously or unconsciously). Fans perceive the local matches as nothing more than a primer for the next big pay-per-view show. Mat mavens can stay home and watch an excess of twenty hours of free TV wrestling each week, or they can pay $20.00 per person to see a similar product live. The choice is obvious, and the less than half-filled arenas are a telltale sign of the situation.

The decision will have to be made immediately. The promoters can't go on losing money indefinitely. Pay-per-view is a great source of revenue, and it is a tremendous way to reach millions of people in one evening. It seems that ppv is where WCW and WWF should focus their attention. Rather than compete with their arena product, their weekly broadcasts should be used to create interest in the upcoming ppv's.

Arena shows no longer appear to be viable for the major leagues. Perhaps a farm system could be created in which the major promoters would work in conjunction with regional booking offices, leasing their athletes to the independents.

It would appear that the WWF and USWA (of Memphis, Tennessee) are moving in that positive direction. For the sport to survive, it would be in the WWF's best interest to help create regional territories in the Northeast and West Coast—to name only two. Once accomplished, they could eliminate most of their road tours, while insuring their contracted athletes full employment.

The wrestling world has changed. Just as ***New Wave Wrestling Magazine*** has ushered in a new way of covering the mat sport, so, too, must the established wrestling organizations. Change is something that we all have a hard time adjusting to, but it is inevitable in all of our lives. For pro-wrestling, the time is now, because there might not be a tomorrow.

Until next time, keep those positive waves, baby.

MICHAEL O'HARA

NEXT WAVE NEWSREEL

MAT NEWS OF THE PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE!

by Michael O'Hara

MAT CLASS: Bob Backlund still takes the time to sign autographs for his staunch supporters. photo: Michael O'Hara

• **WWF News:** Some of the most interesting WWF action can be found within the confines of the USWA rings of Memphis, Tennessee. **Jerry "The King" Lawler**, the USWA heavyweight champ, has had his fair share of WWF challengers in recent months, and, to his credit, he has turned backed the threats of **"Narcissist" Lex Luger**, **"Mr. Perfect" Curt Hennig**, and **Doink the Clown** *(Matt Borne)*.... **Doink** has also been tag teaming with **Jeff Gaylord** against **Lawler** and local pinup mat hero **Jeff Jarrett**.... Did you know that the New York Yankees' beloved(?) **George Steinbrenner** is a big WWF fan?

Kamala *(James Harris)* has easily squashed (literally) **Kimchee** *(Steve Lombardi)*. Where does he go from here?.... Did you know that the word *Yokozuna* is a Japanese term that means *grand champion!*.... Special congratulations to **Shawn Michaels** and **Owen Hart** for their recent series of spectacular mat clashes.

Crush recently forced **Razor Ramon** to submit in a number of surprising upsets!.... **Randy Savage** and **Jerry Lawler** should be engaged in a real barnburner by the time you read this.... Fans are already clamoring for **the Hulk** to take on **Yokozuna** and **Lex Luger**!

A good little man CAN overcome a good big man. **Bret "Hitman" Hart** scored pinfall wins over **Bam Bam Bigelow** in recent outings.... **Reno Riggins**, a respected independent competitor, has been seen on numerous WWF TV tapes as of late.... **Skinner** *(Steve Keirn)* could be back on the Florida circuit soon.

"Terrific" Terry Taylor has been doing a fine job as a WWF television interviewer, but *Triple-T*, we'd rather see your superb skills exhibited in the squared circle.... **The Giant Gonzales** *(Jorge Gonzales)* is making his mark as the new mat monster of the promotion.... **Lance Cassidy** *(Steve Armstrong)* left the WWF because of the hectic travel schedule.... WWF honcho **Vince McMahon, Jr.** is planning a no-holds-barred lawsuit against **Geraldo Rivera** as a result of a segment shown on the talk-show host's syndicated programs, *Now It Can Be Told*, and *The Geraldo Rivera Show*.

While it's a pretty sure bet that we'll be seeing more and more of **Hulk Hogan** in the months ahead (particularly this Fall), *"the Real American"* is still hoping to carve a niche for himself in tinseltown. The mega-maniac is looking to star in and produce a pilot for a television series that will be based in his stomping grounds, Clearwater and St. Petersburg, Florida.

Hurricane in Paradise will use Pinnellas County, which is not far from **Hulk**'s Belleair mansion. The two-hour pilot will be filmed and pitched to CBS television.

No lengthy details have been given as to the content of the pilot; however, the executive producer, **Douglas Schwartz,** said, "This will be family oriented."

If the pilot is given a green light, the series could begin production as early as this summer. It should be noted that hundreds of pilots are made each year.

Good luck, **Hulkster**!

WCW NEWS: Davey Boy Smith, formerly the WWF's **British Bulldog**, is quickly rising to the top rung of contention here. The Manchester powerhouse is signed for 100 dates in 1993, and most assuredly, he will headline WCW's emerging European circuit. The league ran a very successful tour this past March with many more on the way.

While on the subject of expansion, did you know that World Championship Wrestling has been on the air in Moscow, Russia since April 1, 1993? The fans have only been watching for the past month, but from all accounts, they're loving every minute of it!

Barry Windham's long-awaited reign as NWA World champion is certainly in jeopardy with the likes of **"Nature Boy" Ric Flair** and **Davey Boy Smith** looming on the horizon.

It will be interesting to see if **Sting** will be able to mount another comeback in his attempts to regain the gold... Of course, most ***New Wavers*** are now aware that **Ole Anderson** has replaced **"Cowboy" Bill Watts** as the new Vice President of Wrestling Operations for WCW. One of the most significant changes that **Ole** could institute would be the resurrection of the junior heavyweight division. With the likes of **2 Cold Scorpio, Chris Benoit, the Rock & Roll Express**, and **the Heavenly Bodies** on their roster, Anderson's timing would be perfect!

"Flying" Brian Pillman & "Stunning" Steve Austin have proven to be fighting tag-team champs.

The Wrecking Crew: Rage *(Al Greene)* and **Fury** *(Joe "the Terminator" Laurinatis)* have made impressive showings in their recent matches with **the Cole Twins**.... **Paul E. Dangerously** is bringing a lawsuit against WCW charging the promotion with wrongful termination, professional disparagement, and ethnic discrimination.

Newcomers who have been enjoyed success in recent months include: **Steve Regal, Maxx Payne & Robbie Van Dam**.

Paul "Mr. Wonderful" Orndorff is back on top as the WCW TV champion.

NWW

"Nature Boy" Ric Flair is back on the WCW scene to continue his legendary mat antics! photo: Tom Kudas

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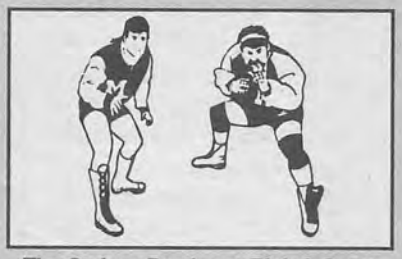
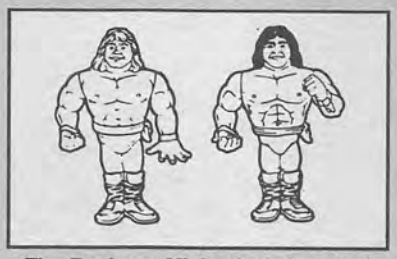
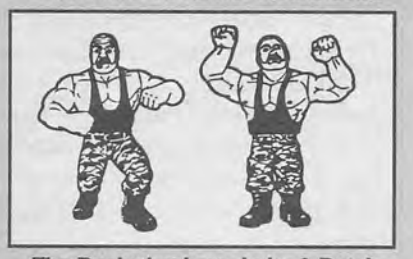


The Steiner Brothers: Rick & Scott



The Rockers: Michaels & Jannetty



The Bushwhackers: Luke & Butch

Demolition: Ax & Smash

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KERRY VON ERICH

February 3, 1960 - February 18, 1993

Kerry von Erich (Kerry Adkisson), 33, the famed "Modern Day Warrior," and a member of the famous and tragic von Erich wrestling family, died from a self-inflicted bullet wound on February 18, 1993.

Despondent over the deaths of his four brothers, and with a possible jail sentence for the possession of illegal drugs, Kerry drove out to a quiet spot on the family's 140-acre ranch in the Shady Shores community of Denton County, Texas. Using the .44-caliber Magnum handgun that was given to him as a 1991 Christmas gift from his father, Kerry ended his life with one fatal shot to the chest.

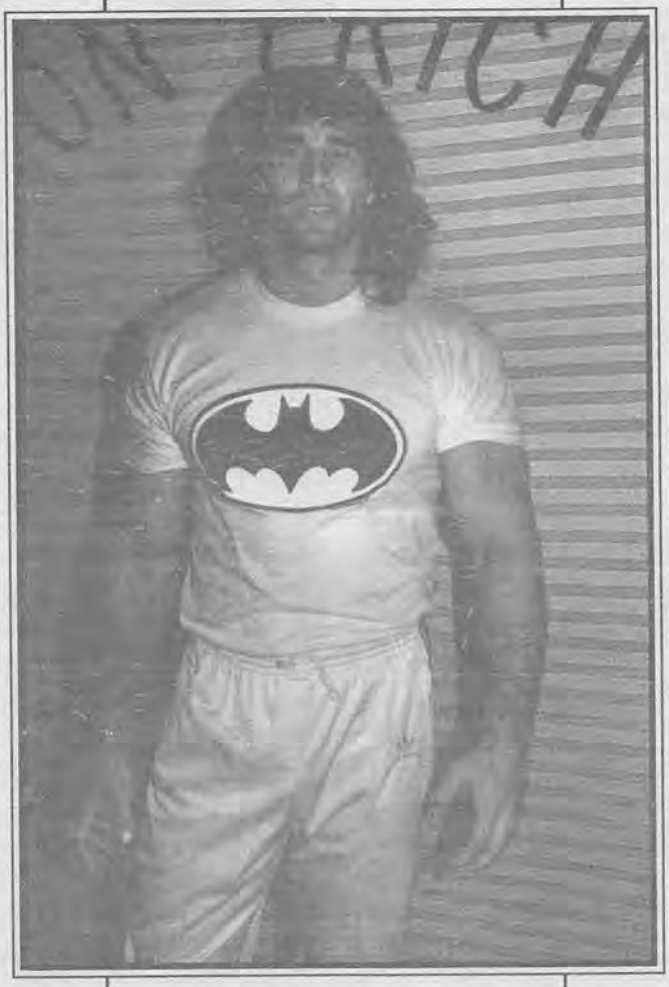
Kerry's body was discovered in a blackberry vine thicket at approximately 2:50 p.m. by his father, Jack Adkisson, who wrestled professionally under the name of Fritz von Erich.

Drug abuse has been alleged as the motive for the suicide. Some time ago, Kerry was arrested in Richardson, Texas for attempting to falsify two drug prescriptions for valium and vicodim to a woman at a shopping center, according to reports by Richardson policeman Sergeant Ray Pennington. The attendant became suspicious and called the doctor whose name was on the prescription. The doctor said he had not written the prescription, and the police were called.

Kerry was charged with two felony counts of obtaining drugs by fraud, a third-degree felony that carried a minimum sentence of two years and a maximum sentence of ten years.

Earlier in the week of his death, Dallas Criminal District Judge Larry Baraka signed an arrest warrant after the troubled grappler was indicted on a charge of cocaine possession. Since he was on ten years of probation for a drug conviction in September, prosecutors were seeking to revoke his probation and send him to prison.

Despite his sad and untimely end, Kerry left a legacy of heroic ring memories for his legion of international fans. Although he was hailed as "the Texas Tornado," he was actually born in Buffalo, New York, where his father was competing on the old Pedro Martinez wrestling circuit.



He began wrestling as an amateur at the age of nine, and was also an avid discus thrower. He had set a Texas State High School record with a discus throw of 196.7, and went on to win the World Junior Discus Championship. The powerful youth had trained intensely for a spot on the 1980 Olympic Team, but his hopes were crushed because of America's boycott of the contests that year.

He made his professional wrestling debut on May 7, 1978 in Dallas, Texas with a spectacular victory over another young hopeful, Paul Perschman, who later became "Playboy" Buddy Rose.

Kerry's mat career was filled with many high spots. He defeated "Nature Boy" Ric Flair for the National Wrestling Alliance World championship on May 6, 1984 before 43,517 screaming, cheering fans at Texas Stadium. He also held the WWF Intercontinental championship, the World Class Championship Wrestling World title, and numerous stints as Texas State champ and World Class tag-team title holder.

The determined star overcame adversity time and time again. Surviving the tragic deaths of his brothers was not all the muscular mat man had to endure. On June 4, 1986 in Argyle, Texas, he was involved in a near-fatal motorcycle accident. He sustained compound fractures, a dislocated right hip, and numerous lacerations. Within a four-day period, 20 hours of surgery was needed. All was done to save the athlete's life, but the doctors were forced to amputate his severely damaged right foot. For the next seven years, Kerry competed with the use of a prosthetic foot — a true testament to his never-ending faith in overcoming all obstacles placed in his path. *NWW*

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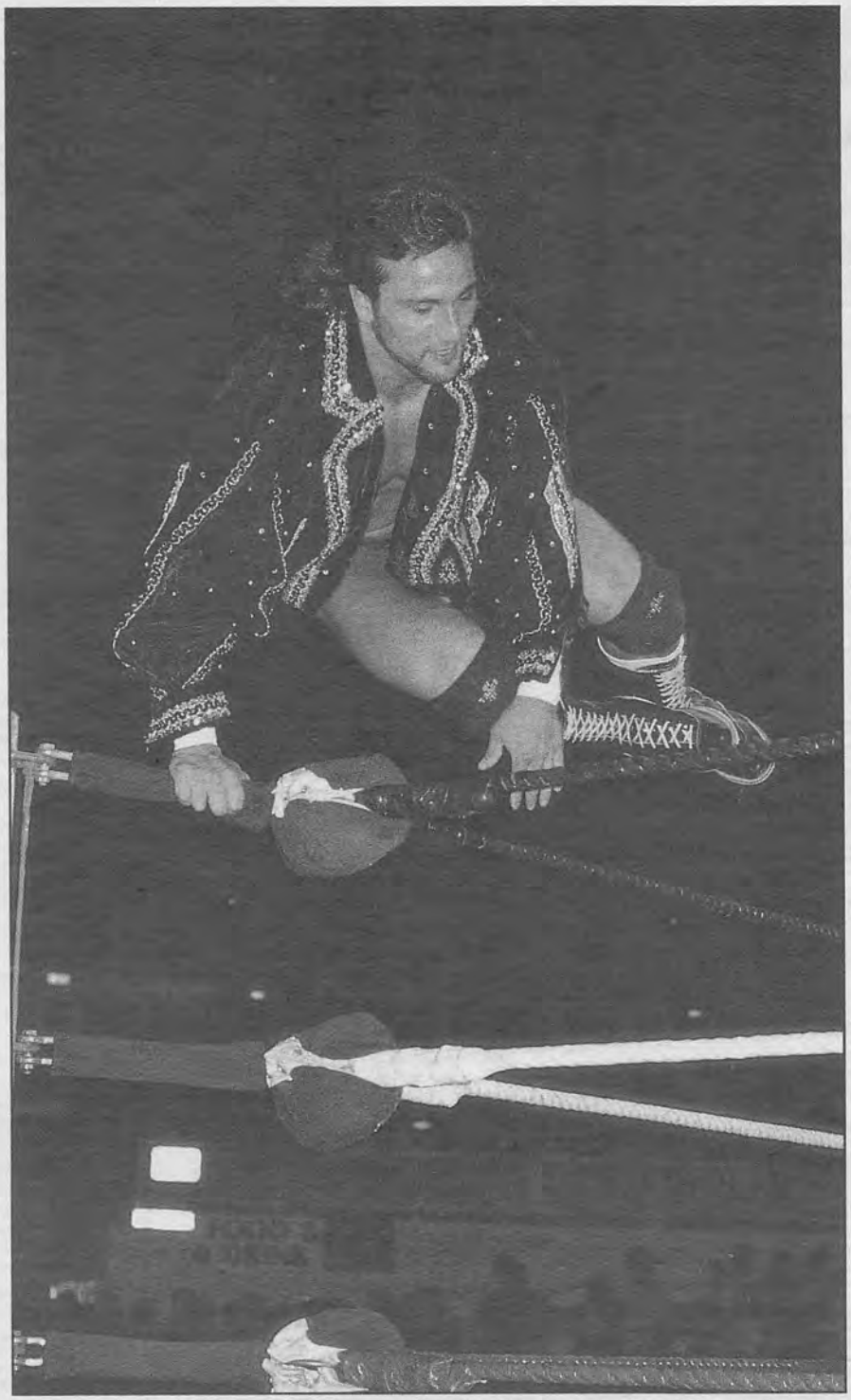
PAUL ROMA

Tag–Team Specialist

interview by Billie Jessee



Always filled with explosive, enthusiastic energy, Paul Roma leaps into the ring, accepting any challenge that comes his way.
photo: Joseph McCarthy

Whether teaming with Jim Powers as a member of the Young Stallions tag team, or one half of the awesome Power & Glory combo with partner Hercules, Paul "Romeo" Roma has proven himself to be a true tag–team warrior of the highest level!

NW: Where are you from?
PR: I was born in Conneticut.
NW: Did you have an amateur wrestling background?
PR: I participated in amateur wrestling a little bit in junior high school.
NW: How long did you wrestle?
PR: I was a wrestler for six years.
NW: Did you work for any other promotions besides the World Wrestling Federation?
PR: No. I started with the WWF, and I ended with the WWF.
NW: Why did you leave the WWF?
PR: They never gave me the recognition I deserved. I also didn't agree with their tactics. The WWF didn't want to get rid of good talent; yet, at the same, they didn't want to promote good talent either. They promised me everything—entrance music, dolls, T-shirts—and I got nothing. I also wanted to do charity work with kids, and they wouldn't even allow me to do that on my days off. It got to the point where I had to leave the WWF.

When I first broke into wrestling, I made the mistake of being too honest. I was very outspoken, and I

couldn't figure out what everybody's problem was. I'm a very honest guy, and I found out that you can't be that way in the locker room. If you are, it's only going to hurt you; but, on the other hand, when you've made it, you know you've made it on your own.

NW: How did you get started in professional wrestling?

PR: I was asked by a former fighter to go into it, and I thought it was a good idea at the time. I wanted to be a role model for kids.

NW: Who trained you?

PR: I was trained by Mr. Fuji. He was one of the most successful tag-team wrestlers of all time.

NW: What is your height and weight?

PR: I am five feet, eleven inches tall, and I weigh 230 pounds.

NW: What achievement are you most proud of?

PR: I have a handicapped sister, so my greatest achievement is helping handicapped kids.

NW: Did you watch wrestling as a child?

PR: No, I never watched it. In fact, my first match with the WWF was a TV taping, and I didn't even know any of the wrestlers.

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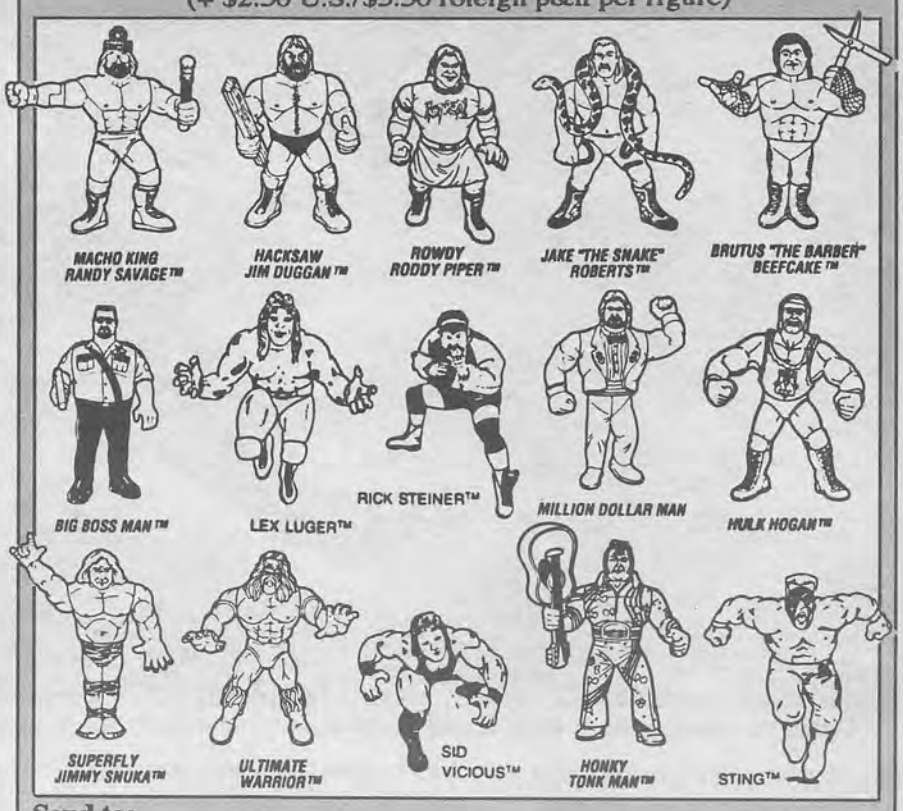

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photo: Michael O'Hara

NW: What were your strongest points as a wrestler?

PR: I believe that my strength and agility were my strongest points as a wrestler. I also believed in being unique. I am a trend-setter, not a follower.

NW: Did you wrestle overseas?

PR: Yes, I wrestled in Kuwait, Australia, Italy, London, and Japan. I've been just about everywhere, except Germany.

NW: What made you switch from wrestling to boxing?

PR: Well, a buddy of mine, who is now my manager, spoke to me about boxing. He knew Kevin Rooney, Mike Tyson's former trainer, and he sent me to his camp. Things continued on from there.

NW: How many boxing matches have you had so far?

PR: I've had three pro fights–two wins and one loss with two knockouts. My next match will be at Madison Square Garden on August 7.

NW: What is your training schedule like?

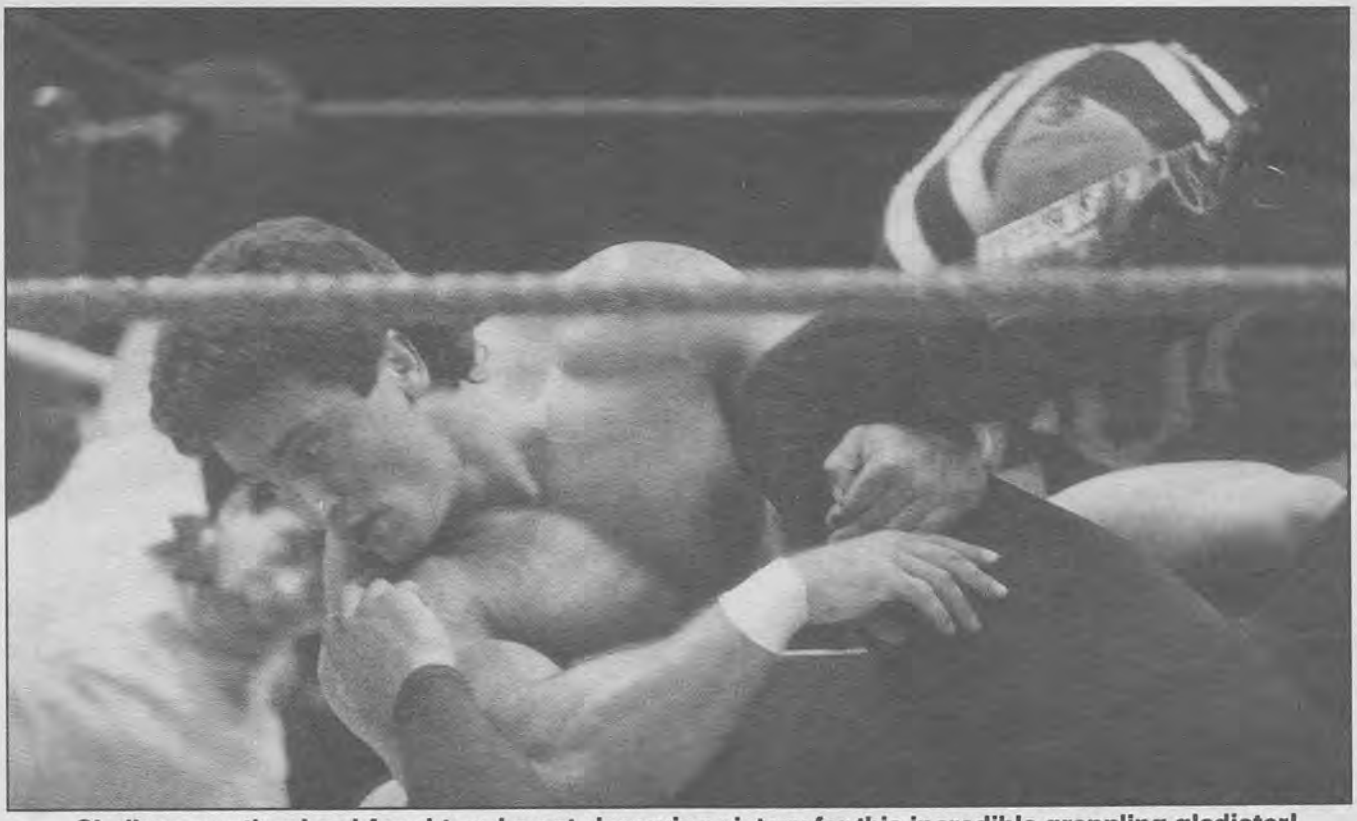
PR: I train two hours a day. When I was wrestling, I trained 24 days out of the month. With boxing, it's different. I'm in the gym about 14 hours a week, and I stop training with weights two weeks before a fight. Boxing is a much harder sport. In wrestling, when you get tired, you can take a rest; however, in boxing, you can't take a break. If you do, you'll get killed in the ring.

NW: Do you remember your first pro-wrestling match?

PR: Actually, I wrestled twice that day. I wrestled Gino Carabello at a high school in Massachusetts. I don't remember who the other guy was, but I do remember that I won.

NW: What do you think of the independent promotions?

PR: Well, since I started and ended with the WWF, it's hard for me to say. The major leagues give you



Chalk up another hard-fought and most-deserving victory for this incredible grappling gladiator!

more exposure, but I believe that the independents help a wrestler more when they're just starting out in the business.

NW: Who has been your toughest opponent?

PR: Me. I'm my biggest critic. I am always looking to improve my technique.

NW: Would you like to see pro-wrestling have only one world champion?

PR: No, not at all. That's what the WWF was trying to do. At one point, they were trying to monopolize everything in wrestling. They tried to put the independent promotions and the NWA/WCW out of business by trying to hire everyone they could. They wanted to break them. The WCW has gotten stronger, however, and the independents are picking up again, too. I think that's what wrestling needs.

NW: Did you prefer single or tag-team matches?

PR: Well, I really enjoyed wrestling in a tag team as Power and Glory with Hercules. We achieved a great deal of success in a short period of time. Hercules had a tremendous influence on my style, and I learned a great deal from our stint as tag-team partners.

NW: Who were some of your other tag-team partners?

PR: I started with S.D. Jones, then I teamed with Jim Powers. We were the Young Stallions. However, the most successful tag team I wrestled in was Power and Glory.

NW: What do you think it takes to be a winner?

PR: To be a winner, you have to be honest and believe in what you are doing. You have to keep going, even when the odds are dead set against you. Your determination and mental toughness will see you through.

NW: What was your favorite finishing move?

PR: Hercules would superplex the guy on the top rope, and I would splash him.

NW: What injuries have you sustained in the ring?

PR: I've had a number of them: broken ankles and ribs, busted knees, and a broken neck.

NW: Do you think there should be any restrictions on wrestling holds and moves used in a match?

PR: No, I don't. I believe there should be no holds barred.

NW: What advice would you give to a young wrestler who is just starting out today?

PR: I would say look your best and do great theatrical moves. Always remember when you are coming out to the ring, that you're there to give the people a good match. They will appreciate you for that, and they'll also never forget you.

NW: Do you think that promoters should have random drug testing?

PR: They do have random drug testing, but they also tell the wrestlers when they're going to do it. That's how they get away with it.

NW: What are your hobbies and interests outside of the ring?

PR: I can't say I have any hobbies. When I have free time, I'm usually doing charity work with kids.

NW: Are you married?

PR: Yes, and I have two lovely children.

NW: Thank you, Paul, for this informative interview. Good luck in all you that you do.

PR: It's been my pleasure. ***NWW***

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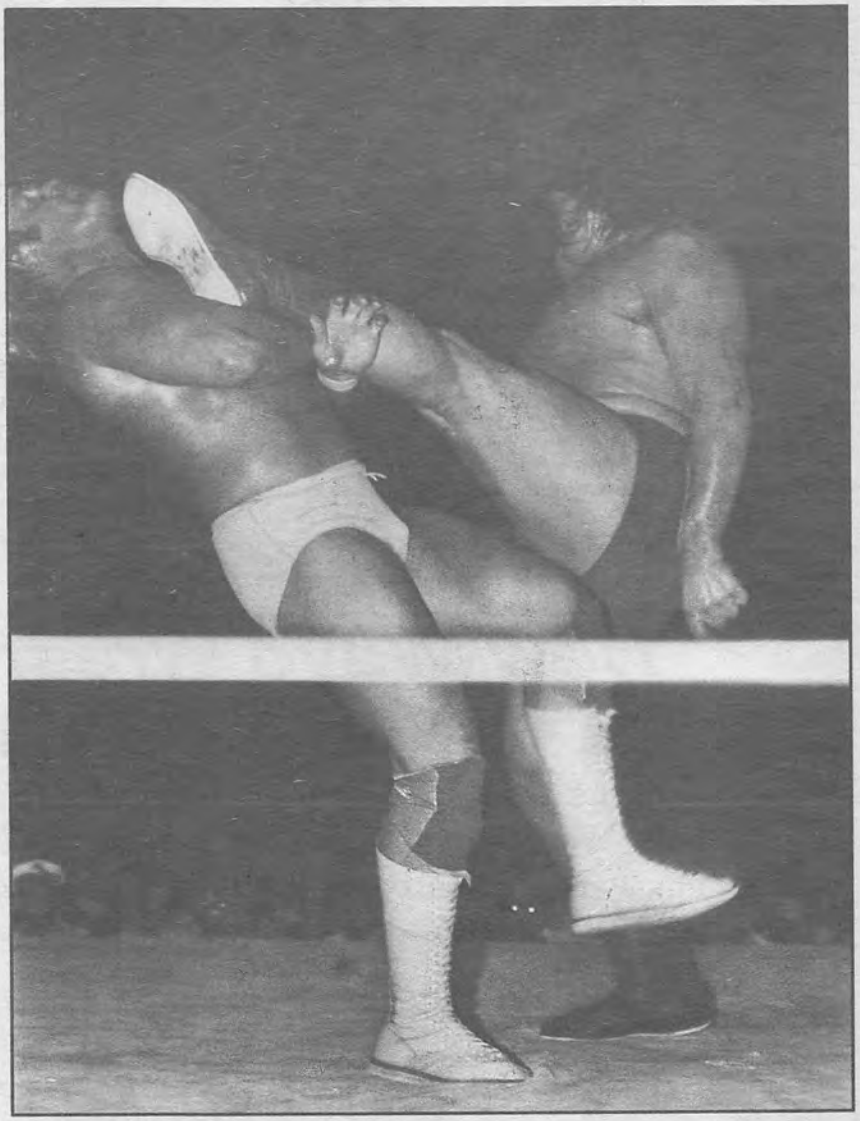
The NOSTALGIA ZONE!

by Michael O'Hara

ANDRE



REMEMBERED

Andre the Giant was literally larger-than-life itself. On January 27, 1993, fans were stunned to hear that the 46-year-old, seven-foot-four, 520-pound mat legend from Mollen, France had died from a fatal heart attack. The phenomenal athlete, whose real name was Andre René Roussimoff, had returned to Paris to attend the funeral of his father, and he died in his sleep two days after the service.

New Wave Wrestling **would like to present a few highlights from Andre's spectacular career as our tribute to the beloved "Eighth Wonder of the World."**

THE LEGEND OF ANDRE

Andre was born in Mollen, France on May 19, 1946. As a child, his Polish father and French mother were hard-pressed to keep the athletic youngster dressed. By the time he was 12 years old, he stood six-feet-two-inches in height!

His ever-expanding size placed a great strain on his parents' finances, so in his early teens, the young man-mountain set off on his own to find fame and fortune. He played soccer and rugby for several years.

Unable to make ends meet in either soccer or rugby, he was approached by a local wrestling promoter in Paris. In 1964, Andre made his pro-wrestling debut known simply as "the Butcher."

He was signed by Isao Yoshihara to appear in Japanese rings in 1968. It was on this fateful tour that he met "the Flying Frenchman" Eduoard Carpentier, who had become one of the top stars in Canada and the United States during the 1960s. Ed brought the rookie mat monster to North America, where Andre (wrestling under such colorful names as the French Giant, Monster Roussimoff, Monsieur Eiffel Tower, and Jean Ferre) learned the finer points of the grappling game. He competed on Jack Britton's Gran Prix Wrestling circuit from 1970 to early 1975 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Throughout this time period, the huge gladiator was being "loaned" to U.S. promoters, such as Verne Gagne and Vince McMahon, Senior.

The Giant was seeing more and more activity in the United States. He began working spot shows for the World Wide Wrestling Federation in 1973, and by 1975, he was working almost exclusively for the Northeastern promotional organization.

With such an incredible array of "big men" on American soil, Roussimoff found himself as the star attraction in the WWWF/WWF for close to twenty years. He competed against such stellar performers as "Killer" Kowalski, Don Leo Jonathan, "Big" John Studd, Ernie "the Big Cat" Ladd, "Crusher" Blackwell, "Giant" Baba, and "Bruiser" Brody. Many times in the past, when Bruno Sammartino or Bob Backlund were listed in the arena programs as the heavyweight champions, Andre was listed along with them as the "People's champion."

He certainly was the choice of the fans and the promoters. Whenever the attendance figures were staggering, Andre would be booked for a number of contests; lo and behold, the arenas were filled to capacity once more.

In the course of his lengthy career, Andre never cared for championship belts because he disliked the responsibility that came with the position. It should be noted that the French brawler had numerous title matches against such respected World champions as "Superstar" Billy Graham, Harley Race, and Terry Funk.

Although Andre shied away from championships he did hold a few in his day, including: the United States tag-team titles with Dusty Rhodes, the WWF tag-team belts as one half of the Colossal Connection with Haku, and he defeated Hulk Hogan for the WWF World championship, only to have the title claimed vacant by the promotion. It can also be safely said that Andre won more battle royals than any other wrestler of his generation.

One former World champion of the American Wrestling Association, Nick Bockwinkel, was truly in awe of Andre's size, and he recalls defending the gold against this very unusual contender on numerous occasions. "You didn't WRESTLE Andre. You don't WRESTLE anyone that big. You make the s.o.b. chase you around the ring until his tongue is hanging out. Then you wait for the time limit to expire, " said the crafty mat veteran.

"Andre was a powerful, commanding presence. He ate hearty, and he certainly drank hearty," added Bockwinkel.

Andre's ability to drink cases of beer or wine was legendary, and it was not uncommon for this amazing dynamo to sit down to eat and/or drink for up to eight hours.... nonstop!

Bockwinkel has life-size brass casts of the Giant's forearm, hand, and foot as a remembrance to the unbelievable size of this beloved mat superstar.

It was hard to get the big man off of his feet, but

dastardly "Killer" Khan, the Mongolian wild man, did the impossible! He broke Andre's ankle, and the news spread throughout the land as every news service carried the story, along with a photo of the smiling Frenchman in his hospital bed wearing the biggest cast ever seen!

After years of being wrestling's most popular performer, he made an abrupt turn to rulebreaking in 1987, engaging in a memorable feud with WWF kingpin Hulk Hogan. By 1990, Andre found himself with numerous health problems, but he continued to take bookings in Japan anyway.

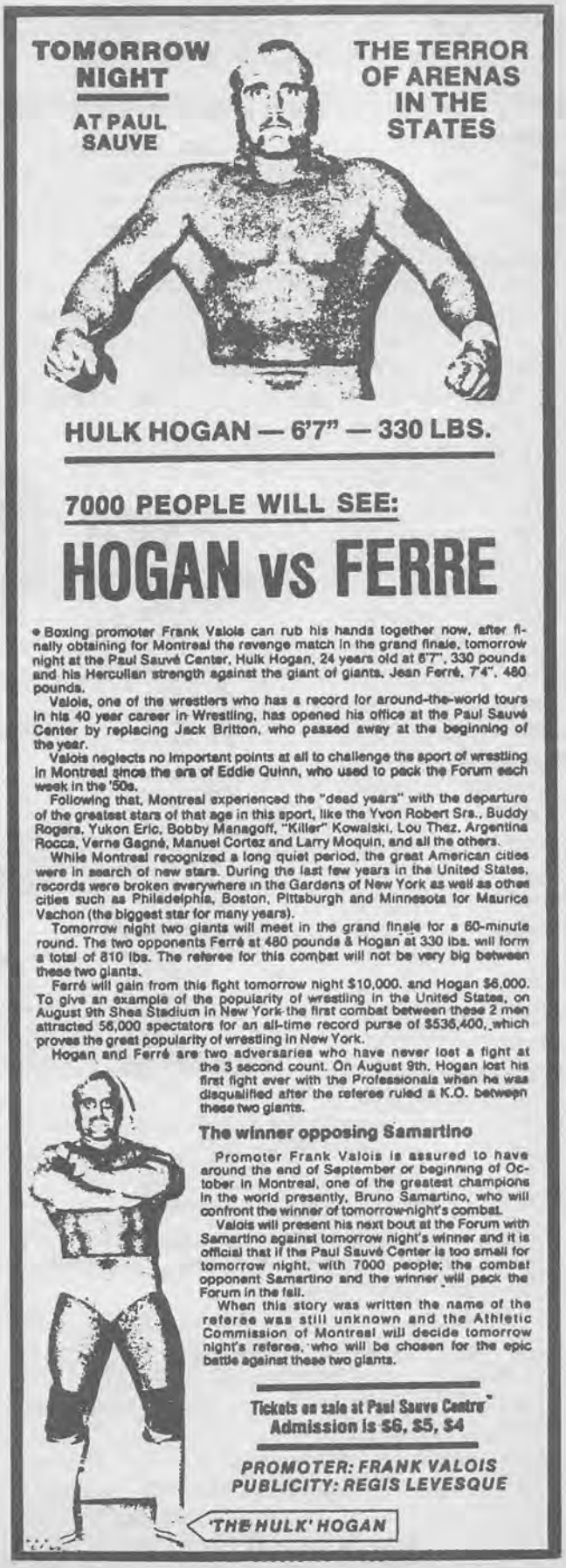
In fact, at the end of 1992, Andre had completed successful tours of Japan and Mexico. Prior to his untimely death, it was rumored that he would be managing Giant Gonzalez in the WWF.

He left a lasting memory, and it can be said that no one will ever be able to fill Andre the Giant's shoes—figuratively and literally! *NWW*

Andre & Hulk: The Early Feud

8/09/80 Shea Stadium, NY: Andre pinned Hulk.
8/16/80 Boston, MA: Andre beat Hulk-COR.
8/28/80 Cape Cod, MA: Andre & René Goulet beat Hulk & the Hangman via count out.
8/25/80 Montreal, Canada: Andre pinned Hulk.
9/13/80 Landover, MD: Andre pinned Hulk.
9/20/80 Springfield, MA: Andre pinned Hulk.
10/4/80 Boston, MA: Andre pinned Hulk.
11/28/80 Sendai, Japan: Andre & the Hangman double count out with Hulk & Stan Hansen.
12/5/80 Tokushima, Japan: Andre DCOR Hulk.
12/12/80 Los Angeles, CA: Andre defeated Hulk.
1/1/81 Atlanta, GA: Andre defeated Hulk.
3/15/81 Landover, MD: Andre defeated Hulk.
3/20/81 Altoona, PA: Andre pinned Hulk.
3/21/81 Philadelphia, PA: Andre pinned Hulk.
3/22/81 Long Island, NY: Andre pinned Hulk.
3/27/81 Pittsburgh, PA: Andre pinned Hulk.
3/28/81 Old Saybrook, CT: Andre pinned Hulk.
3/29/81 Toronto, Canada: Andre pinned Hulk.
12/3/81 Okayama, Japan: Andre & René Goulet double count out with Hulk Hogan & Stan "the Lariat" Hansen.
3/17/82 Gifu, Japan: Andre the Giant & Tony Atlas beat Don Muraco & Hulk Hogan.
6/24/82 Muroran, Japan: Antonio Inoki, Tatsumi Fujinami & Hulk Hogan double count out with Andre the Giant, "Dirty" Dick Murdoch & Scott McGhee.
6/25/82 Sapporo, Japan: Andre & El Canek drew Antonio Inoki & Hulk Hogan.
6/28/82 Kitami, Japan: Inoki, Hulk & Fujinami beat Andre, Murdoch & McGhee.
6/29/82 Kushiro, Japan: Andre & Dick Murdoch double count out with Antonio Inoki & Hulk.
7/1/82 Otaru, Japan: Inoki, Hulk Hogan & Yoshiaki Yatsu beat Andre, Dick Murdoch & Scott McGhee.
7/2/82 Asahikawa, Japan: Andre the Giant & Scott McGhee beat Hogan & Seiji Sakaguchi.

Below: A newspaper advertisement for the August 25, 1980 event at the Paul Sauve Center in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.


TOMORROW NIGHT
AT PAUL SAUVE
THE TERROR OF ARENAS IN THE STATES
HULK HOGAN — 6'7" — 330 LBS.
7000 PEOPLE WILL SEE:
HOGAN vs FERRE

• Boxing promoter Frank Valois can rub his hands together now, after finally obtaining for Montreal the revenge match in the grand finale, tomorrow night at the Paul Sauvé Center, Hulk Hogan, 24 years old at 6'7", 330 pounds and his Herculian strength against the giant of giants, Jean Ferré, 7'4", 480 pounds.

Valois, one of the wrestlers who has a record for around-the-world tours in his 40 year career in Wrestling, has opened his office at the Paul Sauvé Center by replacing Jack Britton, who passed away at the beginning of the year.

Valois neglects no important points at all to challenge the sport of wrestling in Montreal since the era of Eddie Quinn, who used to pack the Forum each week in the '50s.

Following that, Montreal experienced the "dead years" with the departure of the greatest stars of that age in this sport, like the Yvon Robert Srs., Buddy Rogers, Yukon Eric, Bobby Managoff, "Killer" Kowalski, Lou Thez, Argentina Rocca, Verne Gagné, Manuel Cortez and Larry Moquin, and all the others.

While Montreal recognized a long quiet period, the great American cities were in search of new stars. During the last few years in the United States, records were broken everywhere in the Gardens of New York as well as other cities such as Philadelphia, Boston, Pittsburgh and Minnesota for Maurice Vachon (the biggest star for many years).

Tomorrow night two giants will meet in the grand finale for a 60-minute round. The two opponents Ferré at 480 pounds & Hogan at 330 lbs. will form a total of 810 lbs. The referee for this combat will not be very big between these two giants.

Ferré will gain from this fight tomorrow night $10,000. and Hogan $6,000. To give an example of the popularity of wrestling in the United States, on August 9th Shea Stadium in New York the first combat between these 2 men attracted 56,000 spectators for an all-time record purse of $536,400, which proves the great popularity of wrestling in New York.

Hogan and Ferré are two adversaries who have never lost a fight at the 3 second count. On August 9th, Hogan lost his first fight ever with the Professionals when he was disqualified after the referee ruled a K.O. between these two giants.

The winner opposing Samartino

Promoter Frank Valois is assured to have around the end of September or beginning of October in Montreal, one of the greatest champions in the world presently, Bruno Samartino, who will confront the winner of tomorrow-night's combat.

Valois will present his next bout at the Forum with Samartino against tomorrow night's winner and it is official that if the Paul Sauvé Center is too small for tomorrow night, with 7000 people; the combat opponent Samartino and the winner will pack the Forum in the fall.

When this story was written the name of the referee was still unknown and the Athletic Commission of Montreal will decide tomorrow night's referee, who will be chosen for the epic battle against these two giants.

Tickets on sale at Paul Sauve Centre
Admission is $6, $5, $4

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PUBLICITY: REGIS LEVESQUE

'THE HULK' HOGAN

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L	L	Y	R	O	L	G	D	N	A	R	E	W	O	P

Words run in all directions—across, backwards, up, down, and diagonally. Find the following Tag Teams: Bushwhackers, Demolition, Freebirds, Funks, Grahams, Heavenly Bodies, High Energy, Legion of Doom, Money Inc, Mongols, Nasty Girls, Power and Glory, Rockers, Valiants, and Von Erichs.

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Congratulations to our ***New Wave Wrestling Brigade*** winner—**Brad Williams** of **St. Joseph, Missouri!**
He successfully completed our **HIDDEN HOLDS CONTEST #1!**

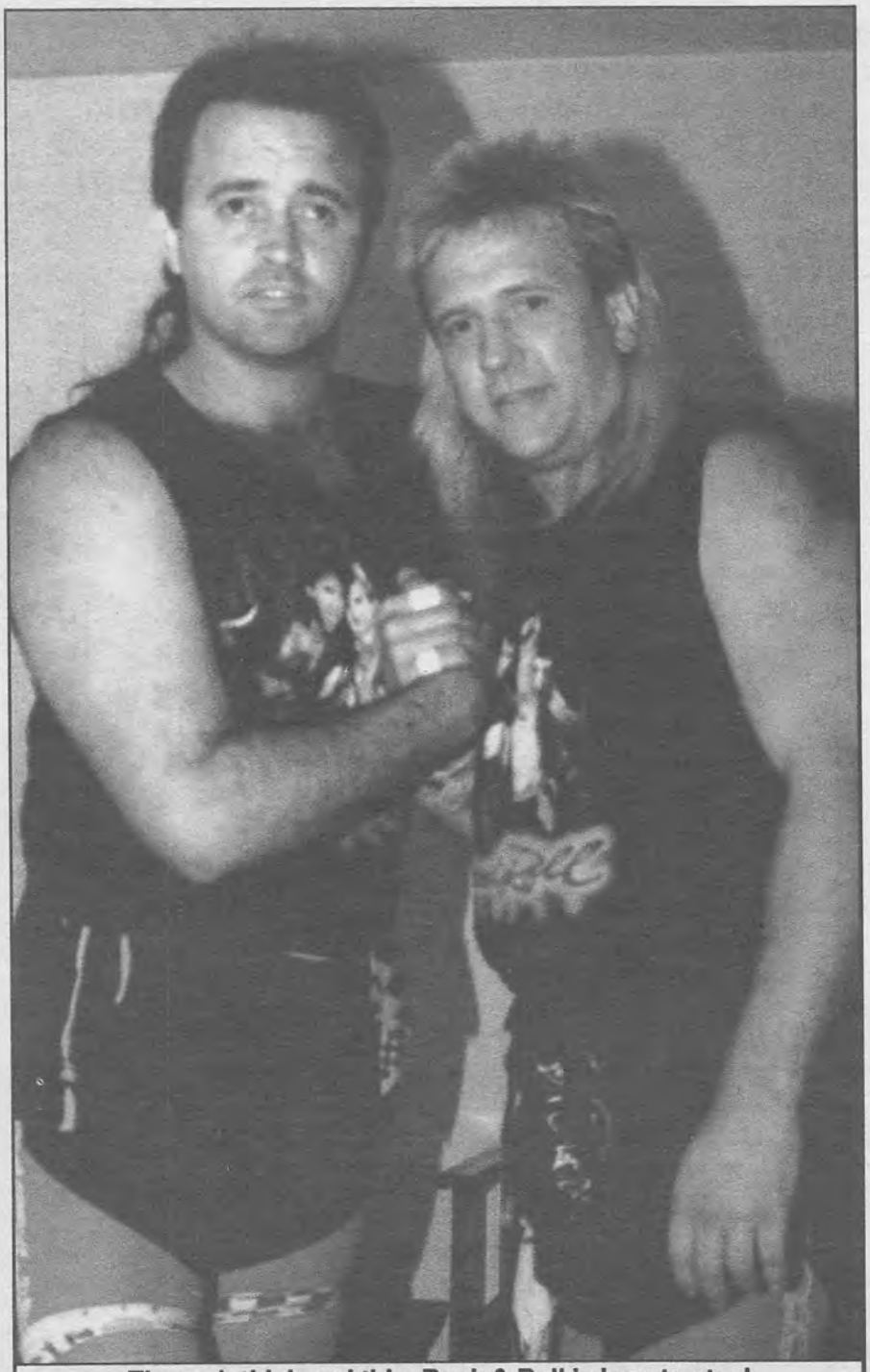
Honorable Mention to: Bryan Liggett (Omaha, NE), Jennifer Brothers (Tampa, FL), David Kisen (Hickory, NC), John F. Sturdy Jr. (East Brunswick, NJ), Christopher Mauller (Vandenberg AFB, CA), Allen McDonald (Strawberry, AR), Rudy Fasel (Chicago Heights, IL), Millie Camacho (Bronx, NY), Tanna Kenady (Cottage Grove, OR), Paul K. Roberts (Jacksonville, IL), Peter Riccio (Ambler, PA), Josephine Taylor (Roanoke Rapids, NC), Virginia Booth (Bedford Hills, NY), Mike Kirk (Millbrook, NY), Vincent Gonzales (Victoria, TX), Steve Chaddock (Brooklyn, NY), Walter Petty (Evansville, IN), Roger Marcotte (So. Dartmouth, MA), Luis Alberto Muentes (Bronx, NY), Trudy Davis (Sanford, MI), Mike Jording (Hewlett, NY), Mary Jo Parsons (Shelbyville, IN), Timmy Healey (Danbury, CT), Marie Lackey (Clute, TX) and John Rollins (Monticello, UT).

We'll list the first 25 fans who *correctly* complete this contest in a future issue of ***New Wave Wrestling!***

Ring Legend Spotlight

A Conversation With:

THE ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS



Through thick and thin, Rock & Roll is here to stay!
photo: Ed Russino

Interview by Ron Andrews

NWW: Please tell us a little bit about yourselves.

RIC: Well, my first love has always been professional wrestling, but, of course, I love rock 'n' roll music as well. Whenever my busy schedule permits, which isn't often, I enjoy going to rock concerts. I'm also a big movie buff and sports fan. Baseball, basketball, swimming, and racing cars are just some of the ways that I cut loose.

ROB: I guess that's why Ricky and I have been so successful as teammates. Our interests are very similar. I enjoy sports like water skiing, bowling, para-sailing, and I also like to relax at the movies. My main interest will always be professional wrestling, and nothing will ever take the place of rock & roll music.

NWW: When and where were you guys born?

RIC: I was born on September 21, 1956, and I'm from Nashville, Tennessee.

ROB: I was born on July 19, 1958, and I'm a native of Pensacola, Florida.

NWW: When did you both realize that you would become professional wrestlers?

RIC: I grew up watching the mat sport. My father, Paul, was a referee for the Mid-South promotion.

ROB: I've been a fan of professional wrestling ever since I can remember. My older brothers were professional wrestlers, so I guess that I didn't have much choice in the matter. (Laughs) It was something that I always wanted to do.

NWW: When did you make your professional-wrestling debut?

RIC: I started back in 1979, and I

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Many young, acrobatic tag tandems have emerged over the past ten years. Several combos have made a lasting impression on the hearts and minds of the international mat fans, but the greatest team of all, by which all other teams are measured, is The Rock 'n' Roll Express—Robert Gibson and Ricky Morton!

can't believe how fast the years have flown. Whew! (Laughs)

NWW: Do you remember your first wrestling match?

RIC: Definitely. I was matched up against a wrestler by the name of Timothy Lewis. Fortunately, I won, but I had butterflies before, during, and after the bout.

NWW: Which wrestlers were influential in your training?

ROB: My brothers, Reuben and Ricky, were very influential in my career. I held the Southeastern and Mid-Southern tag-team belts with Ricky.

NWW: What else do you remember about that time period?

RIC: I was wrestling just about every night of the week. When I was getting my break in Memphis, it seemed that all of today's big names were making their mark on the circuit. A number of young guys, such as the Freebirds, Hulk Hogan, Brutus Beefcake, the Honky Tonk Man, and Koko B. Ware, were also starting out. It was a very wild and a very exciting time.

ROB: I always remember how hard it was. I was making very little money, and I would spend a great deal of time on the road—just hours and hours with no end in sight. As a rookie, I kept kicking myself for all of the stupid mistakes that I made in the ring. Fortunately, those days are long gone.

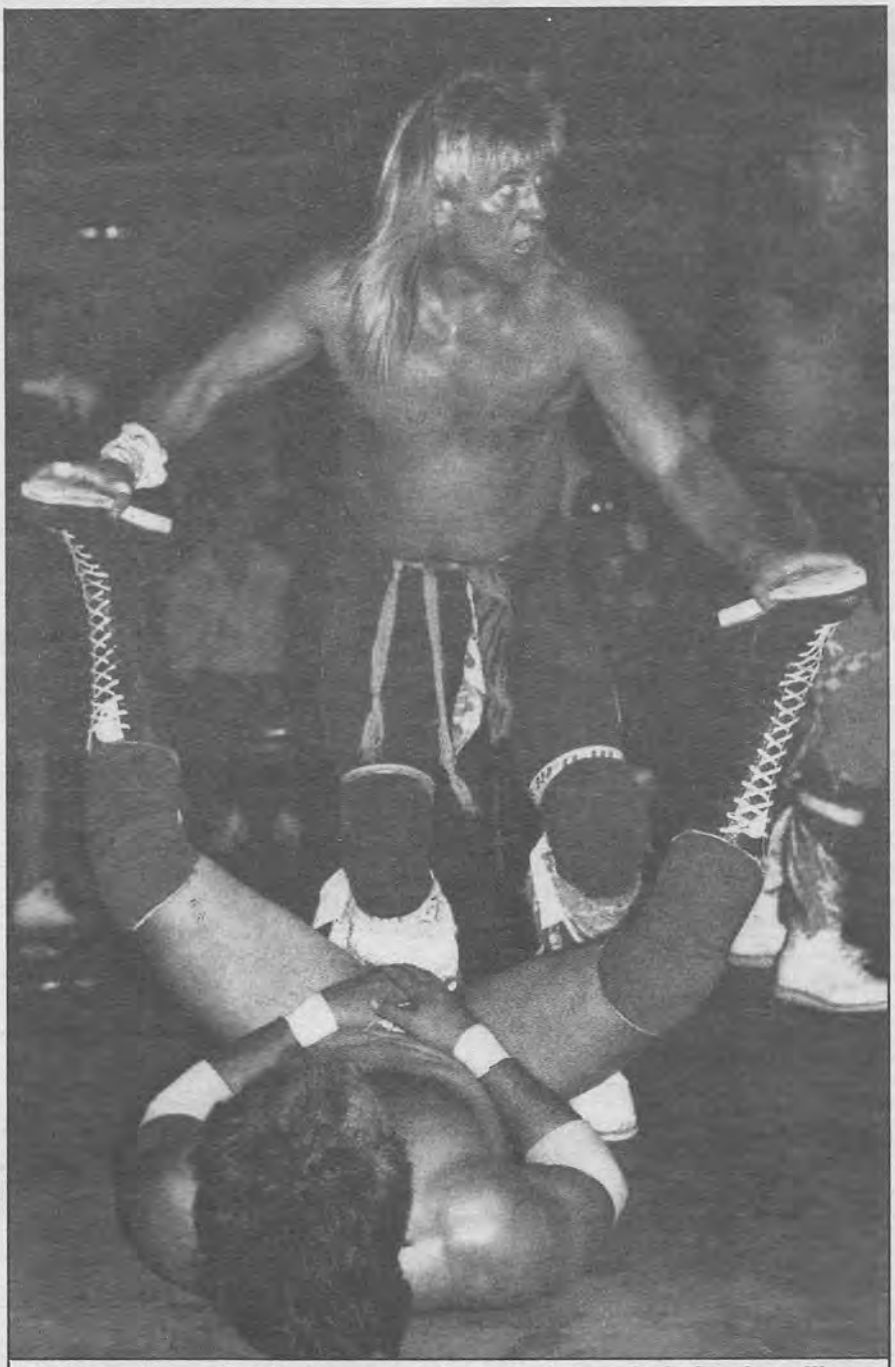
NWW: Which wrestlers helped you during your rookie period?

RIC: My father helped me get bookings in Memphis. Sonny King and Ken Lucas, two well-known stars from the Southern circuit, were also very helpful during my rookie days.

ROB: Again, I would have to say my brothers, Reuben and Ricky.

NW: Who did you team with in the beginning of your careers?

RIC: I was teaming with Steve Regal in 1979. We were managed by Sonny King. We had a number of classic matches with the Blond Bombers, Wayne Farris and Larry Latham, who were the AWA Southern tag-team champions at



Ricky can keep the fast-paced action at a fever pitch, but he will not hesitate to fight fire with fire whenever the situation calls for it. photo: Larry Barnhizer

that time. We also feuded with the original Freebirds, Michael Hayes and Terry Gordy.

Later on, I teamed with Eddie Gilbert. We competed against Mr. Onita and Masa Fuchi. I had also teamed with other partners, such as Sonny King, Jerry Barber, and Ken Lucas, but no one can compare to Robert Gibson. He's the best.

ROB: Primarily, I teamed with my brothers. Other than that, it was a random selection of partners — whoever the promoter wanted to hook me up with.

It wasn't until 1983 that the Rock 'n' Roll Express was formed. Ricky and I were wrestling in Tennessee. Our tag teaming worked from the very start.

NW: Who have you feuded with?

ROB: Oh, man. Who haven't we feuded with! (Laughs) We've competed against Ivan and Nikita Koloff with their partner Crusher Khrushev, the Freebirds, the Sheepherders, the Midnight Express, Rick Rude and Manny Fernandez, and, of course, various combinations of the Four Horsemen.

RIC: We've wrestled them all, brother!

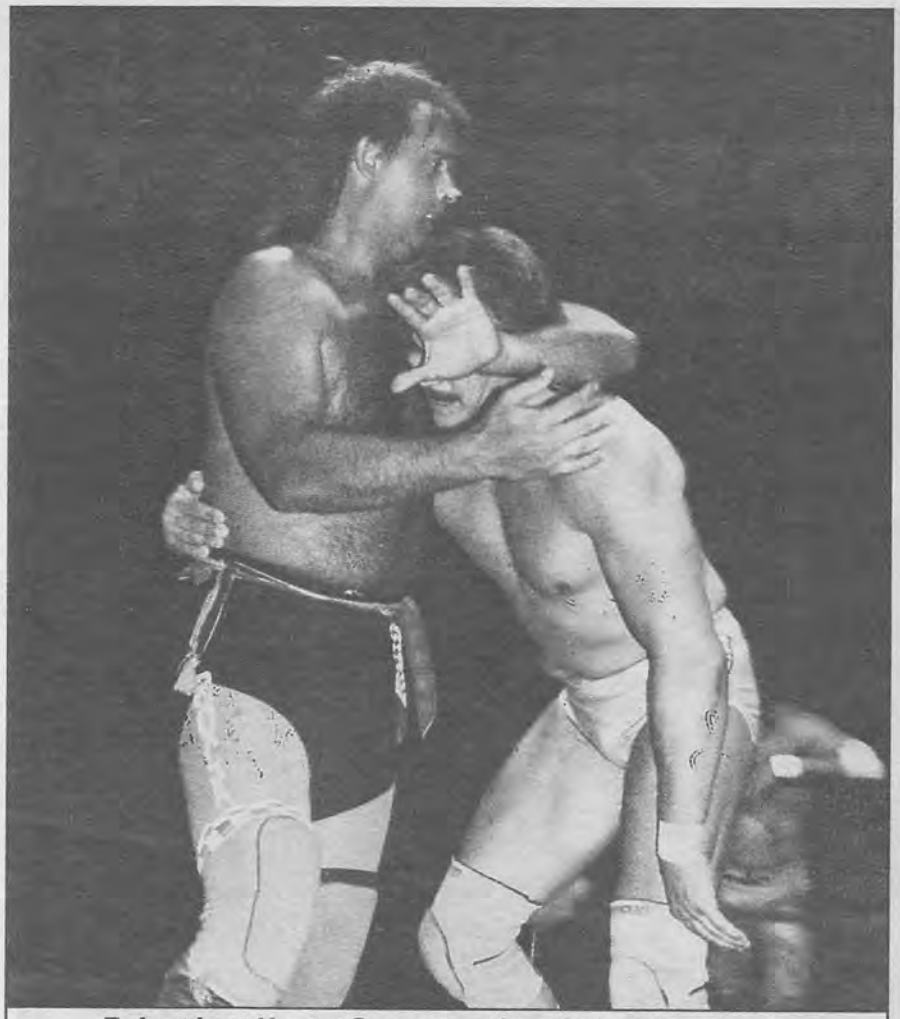
NWW: What are your dislikes?

RIC: I'm sick and tired of groups of wrestlers who conspire together. A few years ago, it was the Four Horsemen. Today, you see it all over the place. Jim Cornette has made a very nice living for himself as a professional pest.

ROB: I dislike people in a negative frame of mind. I remember, back in 1985, when Ricky and I were after the NWA World tag-team titles. The champions were the Russians, and people would come up to us and say, "You guys are crazy. You'll never be able to defeat them. They're bigger and stronger than the two of you. You'll never stand a chance."

But I'll never forget the day that we defeated them for the gold. It was July 9, 1985 in Shelby, North Carolina

NWW: Would you say that was your most memorable moment?



Robert kept Hector Guerrero at bay during this classic UWF encounter. photo: Larry Barnhizer

ROB: I would say that it was the match in which we came of age. I think there were some fans that believed we were a great deal of hype and flash. When we won the World tag-team straps, they knew that we really meant business.

We have had many memorable matches. I remember defeating Ted

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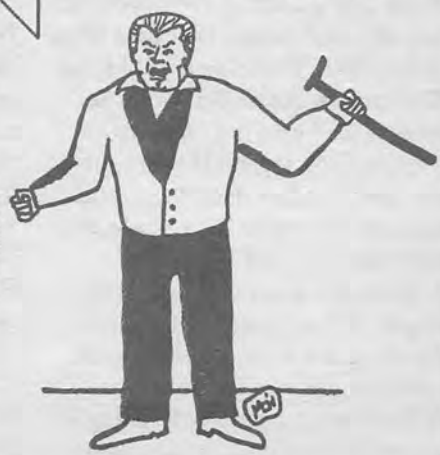
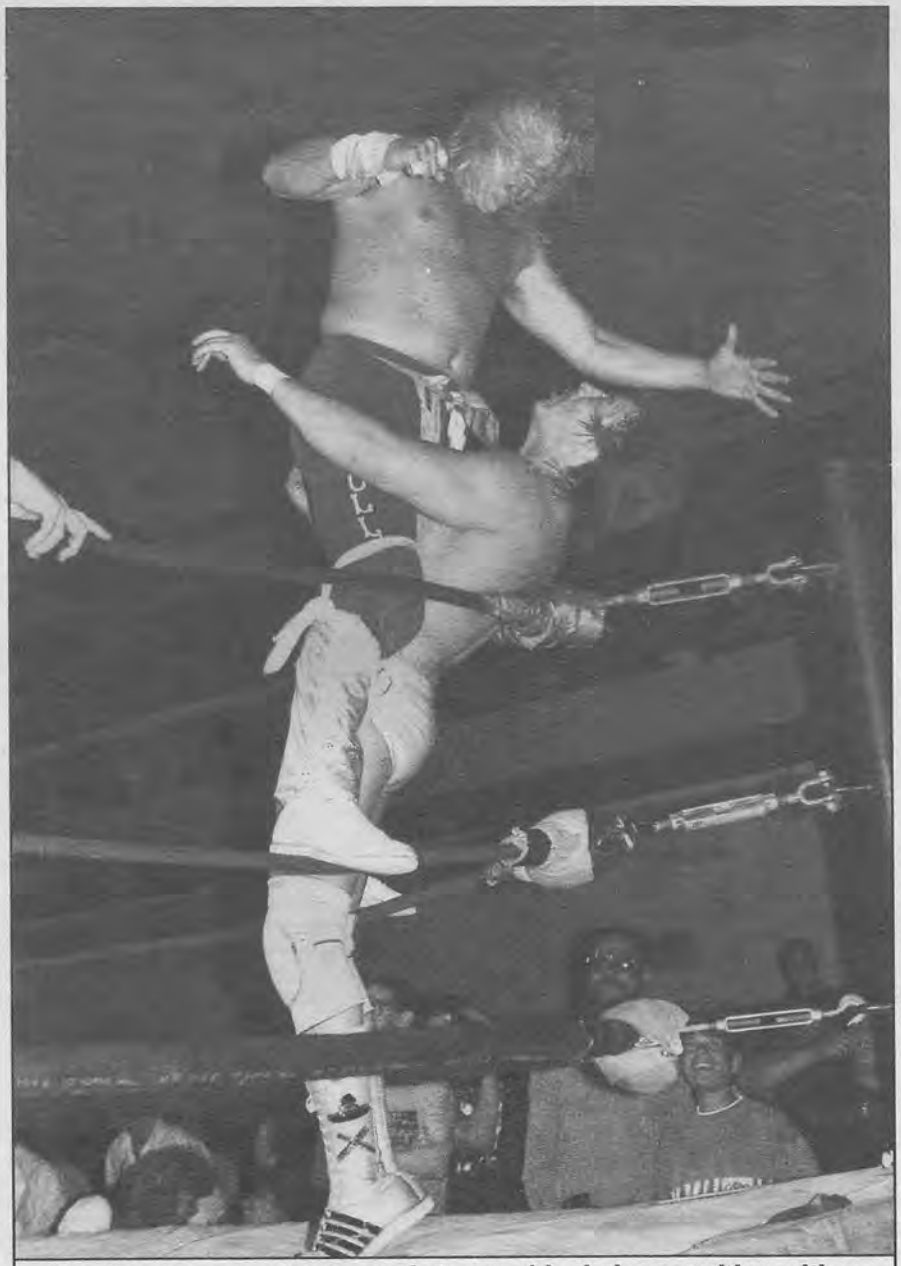




The Express are always ready to provide their opposition with a lesson in explosive wrestling. photo: Larry Barnhizer

DiBiase and Hercules Hernandez to regain the Mid-South tag-team titles back in 1984. That was a wild feud!

RIC: Back in the mid-1980s, the emphasis was moving away from acrobatic, high flyers. If you look at the NWA roster back then, you would see guys like Rick Rude, the Road Warriors, and the Koloffs. The spotlight was purely on brute strength. We went against the tide, and I'd say we were more successful than any of our contemporaries.

NWW: Can you give us a listing of some of the major championships that you have held?

ROB: With Ricky, I've held the NWA, UWF World tag-team titles, the Smoky Mountain tag straps, and numerous regional belts. I had a brief stint as the NWA World junior-heavyweight champion. As I had mentioned earlier, I held a few tag-team titles with my brother.

RIC: I held the Texas tag titles with Ken Lucas, the Tri-City tag straps with Eddie Gilbert, and then later, with Robert. I've been a member of the Southern, Tri-State, UWF and NWA World tag teams. I'm also a former NWA World junior-heavyweight champion. There have been others, but who can remember them all. (laughs)

NWW: Do you have any favorite wrestling moves?

ROB: Yes, I like aerial moves. Basics like the dropkick are not enough today. People really want to see high-risk maneuvers, and to the best of my ability, I try to deliver.

RIC: I've always been partial to synchronized, acrobatic maneuvers. Without sounding overblown, Robert and I have our timing down to a science. We can deliver double dropkicks and other coordinated moves like no other team.

NWW: What do you think of the numerous Rock & Roll Express imitators over the years?

ROB: Well, I'm not overjoyed by it, but, I suppose, people will look at what works for someone else, and then try to copy it. It's very flattering to think that another team would try to emulate our way of doing things. That's life.

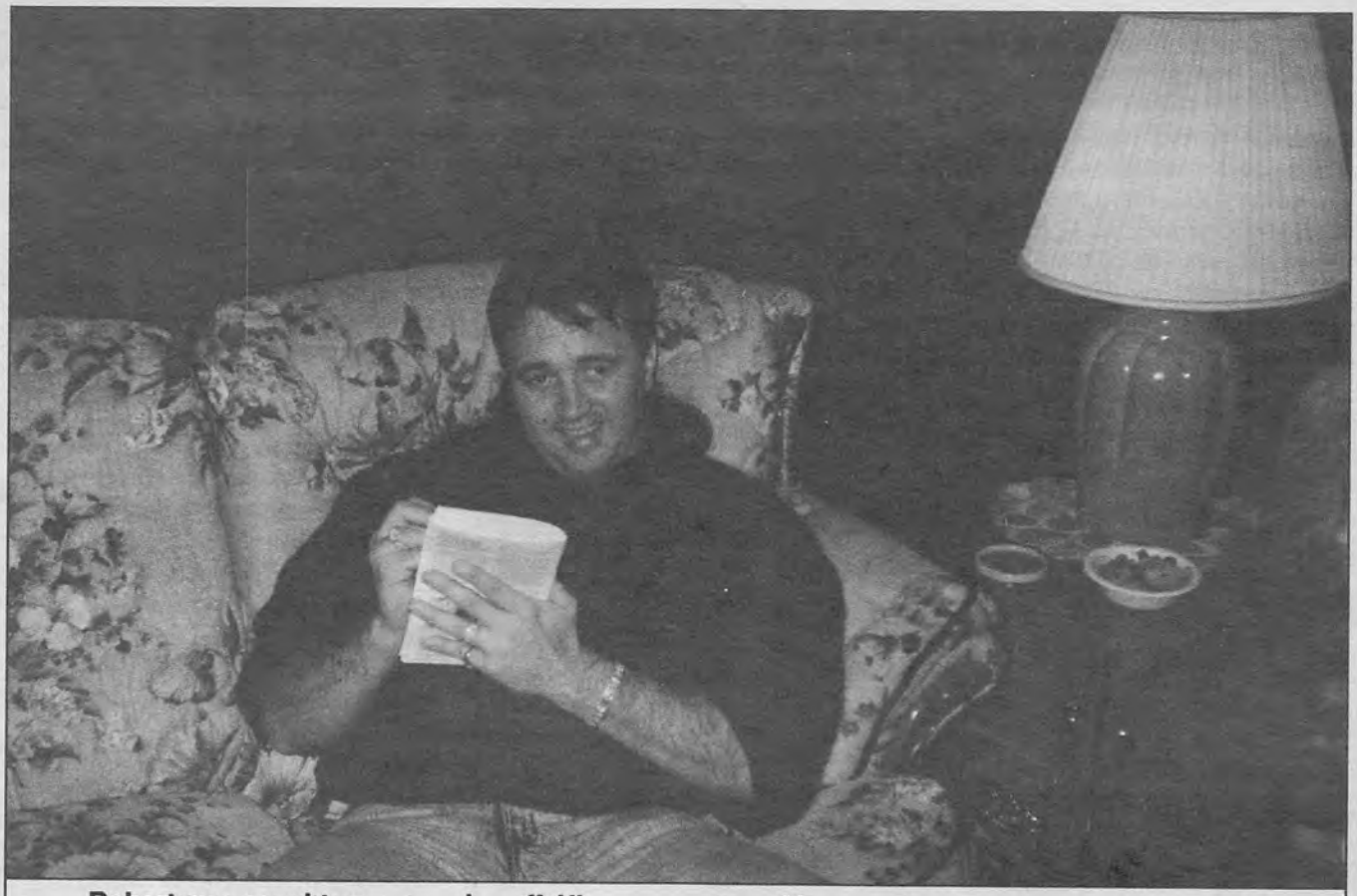
RIC: I agree with Robert, but I do feel that the Rock & Roll imitators are not being true to their own identities. You can't just go through the motions. People immediately pick up on what is sincere and what is fake. Through good times and bad, Gibson and Morton are still rocking along.

NWW: Do you have any favorite TV shows and rock groups?

ROB: I have always been a fan of the Andy Griffith Show. It has a timeless quality to it, and it appeals to people around the world. I guess we all like to look back on a time period that seemed simpler. Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band are one of my all-time favorite groups. The country music scene has exploded in recent years, and you are seeing a new discovery of that musical form. I think it's one of the most exciting areas of music today.

RIC: I watch MTV and the country music stations. I enjoy all forms of music, and I think that country is starting to break ahead of the pack.

NWW: Here's a different question: Do you guys have any favorite



Robert was caught on a rare day off. His opponent on this occasion was a crossword puzzle.
photo: Billie Jessee

opponents?

RIC: It doesn't happen often, but I enjoy wrestling against opponents that can keep our pace. What I mean by that is counterholds and fast series of exchanges of holds — almost like wrestling drills.

Matches against the Midnight Express, the Guerrero Brothers, and the Heavenly Bodies immediately come to mind.

ROB: I would add Arn Anderson and Tully Blanchard to that list, along with Ric Flair and any of the numerous Horsemen members that he's teamed with over the years. They are not acrobatic wrestlers, but they are rough, tough, counter wrestlers.

NWW: Can you list one team over the others?

RIC: I think that they all had dif-different strengths and weaknesses. The Guerreros were extremely fast and explosive. The Midnights knew every dangerous hold in the book. The Heavenly Bodies just kept coming at you. It's really hard to say.

ROB: I think that Ric Flair is one of the most adaptable competitors of his generation. He can team with anyone and make it work. In their day, I think Arn and Tully could be ranked right up there with the greats like Ole and Gene Anderson and the Graham Brothers. Individually they were tough. As a team, they were devastating.

NWW: I'm sure our readers would

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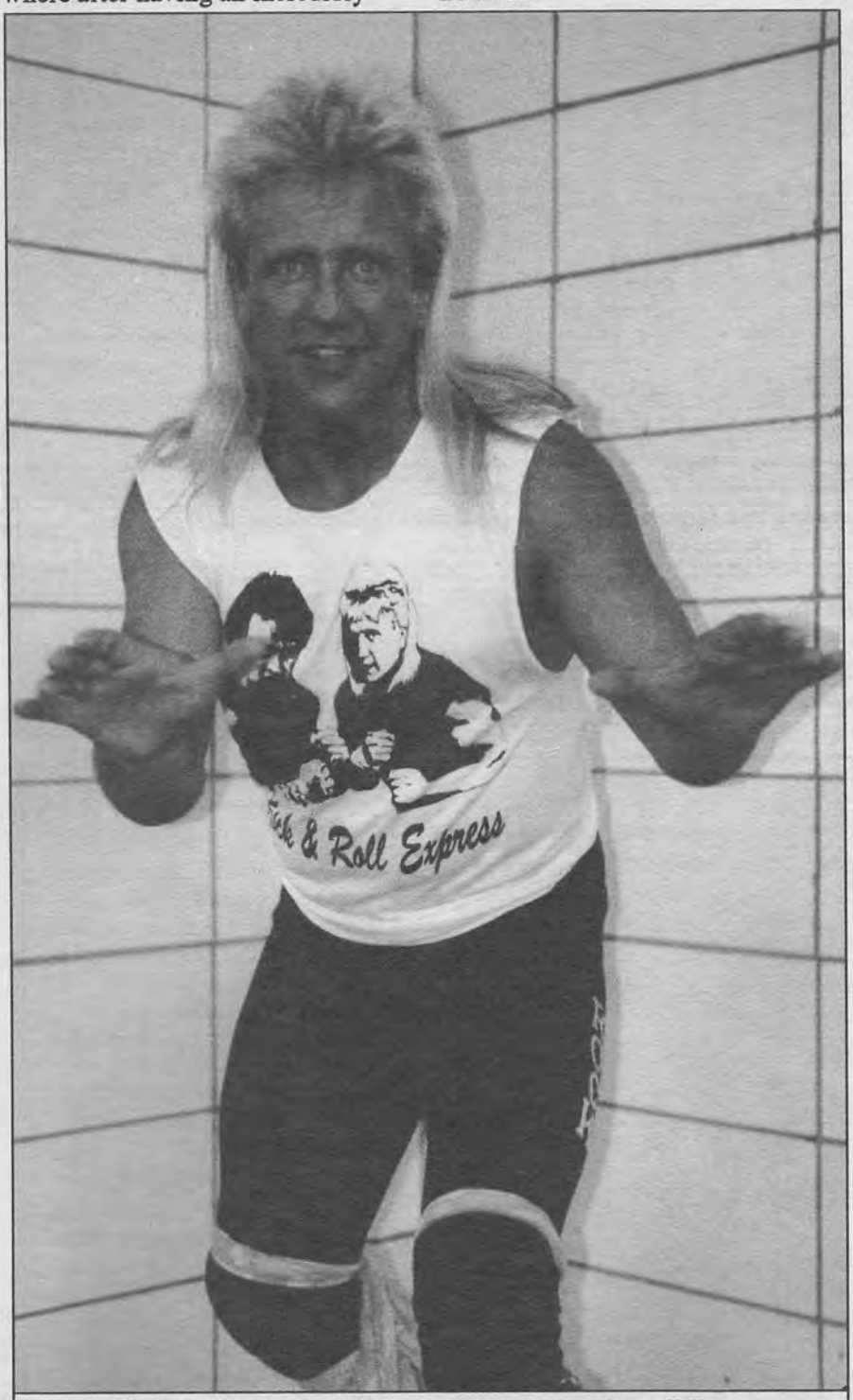
be curious as to your breakup some time ago. What happened?

RIC: It's something that I'm not proud of, but we were caught between a rock and a hard place. The NWA was going through some rather strange times, and I think it rubbed off on some of their wrestlers —namely, me. (Laughs)

Seriously, we were going nowhere after having an incredibly long run of title reigns in the NWA. The pressure got the better of me, and I thought that maybe the Rock & Roll Express had run its course. I hooked up with the York Foundation for a brief time period, but it goes back to what I had said earlier about being true to yourself. It just didn't work. By that time, it was too late. The Rock & Roll Express was no more.



Ricky strikes a traditional pose. photo: Jerry Wilson

NWW: How did the Rock & Roll Express return to the top of tag-team contention?

RIC: We were getting a number of offers to reunite on the regional level. It was almost like the campaign to get the Beatles together. (Laughs)

ROB: Smoky Mountain Wrestling Promotion began to really pick up steam, and it just seemed like the natural thing to do. We've always been very lucky in the Southern states, especially Tennessee. We've been on the road again ever since.

NWW: Now you have been taken full circle. How do you feel about wrestling for World Championship Wrestling again?

RIC: It's great to be back. I am happy to be traveling on the old circuit and seeing the familiar faces again.

ROB: We haven't seen tag-team action in NWA/WCW rings since, I believe, 1988, so it's great to see all of our longtime fans again.

We also have the best of both worlds. Ricky and I are competing for Smoky Mountain Wrestling and the major WCW events as well. This is an exciting situation. I'm glad to see that the major-league groups are getting involved in a talent exchange. The fans in WCW and Smoky Mountain are the real winners from this new relationship. They can see stars from different organizations compete against one another, instead of the same old matches month after month. It makes the wrestlers work harder, and it also makes wrestling much more competitive.

NW: Thank you, gentlemen, for taking the time to talk with ***New Wave Wrestling.***

RIC: You're welcome.

ROB: We look forward to seeing all of our fans at their local arenas in the very near future. ***NWW***

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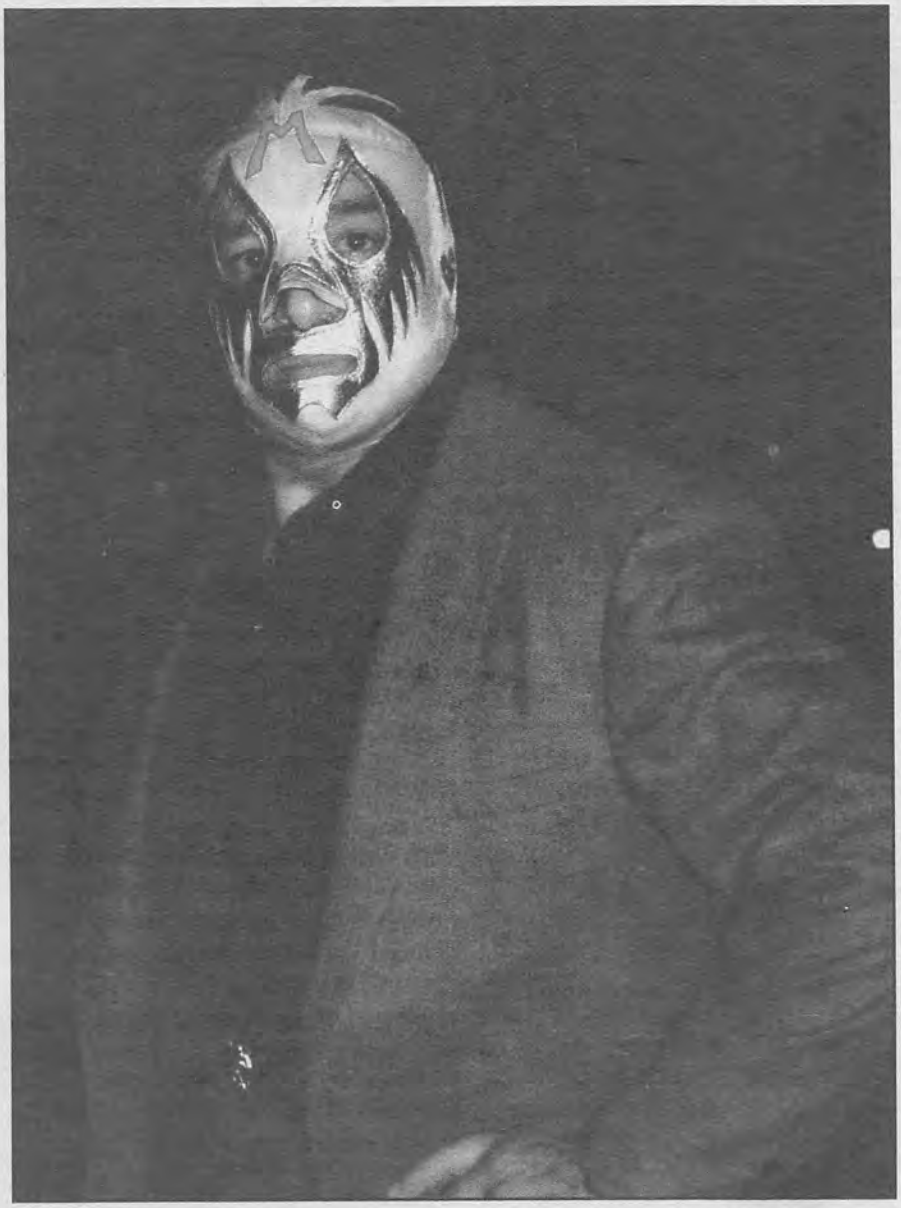

Mat men, musical maidens, monsters, and mayhem—put them all together, and you have the outrageous Mexican rasslin' flicks of the 1960s and 1970s!

by Michael O'Hara

Hey, New Waver! I'm sure that you have heard about Mexico's wild and wacky professional wrestling movies from thirty years ago. On a rare occasion, you'll find one of these original slammin' pixs playing on a Spanish-language, UHF TV station. Those dubbed into English (and there were many) have rarely seen airplay over the past fifteen years. Of course many of these grapplin' gems are available on home video from your ol' pals here at ***NWW HQ***, so check our inside front cover and page 62 for more information. (You didn't think I'd pass up an opportunity for a sneaky plug now, did you?!)

Who was responsible for this unique genre of filmmaking, and how did this awesome assortment of **mat**nificent movies find their way into the American marketplace? Well—I'm gonna tell you!

Kenneth Gordon Murray was the man responsible (some say guilty) of bringing this hodgepodge of chaotic celluloid hysteria to U.S. film fans. K. Gordon (as he was known) gained his flair for theatrics from his involvement with traveling carnivals in the late 1930s. Showmanship became first and foremost in this carny man's life, and it certainly was an invaluable tool in his later attempts in the motion-picture industry.

With years of wheeling and dealing under his belt, he eventually purchased a worn-out carnival of his own in the 1940s. America's fascination with sideshows was coming to an end, and Murray decided to diversify into the construction of movie theaters and

drive-ins. His involvement with film distributors eventually led to a brief stint as a publicity and promotion man for the various emerging independent film companies, based in Hollywood, California.

Taking all of his knowledge about circus promotion, movie theater management, and film distribution, he launched K. Gordon Murray Productions from his home in Miami, Florida, and immediately went on a buying spree; picking up inexpensive, B-movies from the foreign market. There was no language barrier for this entrepreneurial film broker/visionary, as he had built a full-scale film laboratory with dubbing capabilities from his home base in Florida. He focused on the foreign market, and he found his pot of gold in Mexico, where cheaply made kiddy, horror, and action films were abundant.

His first acquisition was an assortment of films from Churubusco-Azteca Studios in Mexico. Murray's initial release was Santa Claus, an enjoyable 1959 motion picture that was rereleased year-after-year until the mid-1970s. He followed with an assortment of children's classics, such as Rumpelstiltskin, Puss 'n' Boots, among many others.

This was preceded by various vampire/supernatural thrillers that have become cult classics amongst low-budget film aficionados. The B-movie market was reaching a saturation point as numerous American independent film makers were severely cutting into Murray's once monopolistic territory. Leaving no stone unturned, he changed the name of his studio to Trans-International Films, and quickly went to work on developing television syndication packages from his massive film library.

From the early fifties to late sixties, independent TV stations were eagerly grabbing anything that would fill the airwaves. Old movies, cliffhanger serials, and theatrically-released cartoons were filling the local TV markets. Murray was in the right place at the right time. Because of the success of the Batman TV series in 1966, K. Gordon was able to secure lucrative deals nationwide thanks to his Mexican wrestling movie library featuring the likes of such mat super-heroes as El Santo (the Saint), Mil Mascaras (One Thousand Masks), and the Blue Demon, to name a few.

Murray's films had been big favorites with the Mexican audiences since El Santo's movie debut in 1952. To the best of my knowledge, these films, that were dubbed into English, were never theatrically released, and they went directly to television in the 1960s. Because of possible legal action over the trademarked use of the name The Saint, Murray changed Santo's name in the dubbing process to Samson.

If you haven't seen these cinematic "classics," it is almost impossible to describe them. The complete assortment (approximately 100 in all) features a unique combination of pro-wrestling, horror, musical numbers, comedy, romance, and action. You could call this genre "kitchen sink films" because they threw everything in.... including the kitchen sink!

In Mexico, wrestling movies were big business. Churubusco-Azteca Studios wasn't the only production company churning these babies out. There was also plenty of competition from Filmadora, Cinematografica, and Tele–Talia Studios.

The wrestling movies have ceased production approximately twenty years ago, but to this day, their appeal, their pure fun, and their nonstop action continue to thrill fans in the video market. ***NWW***

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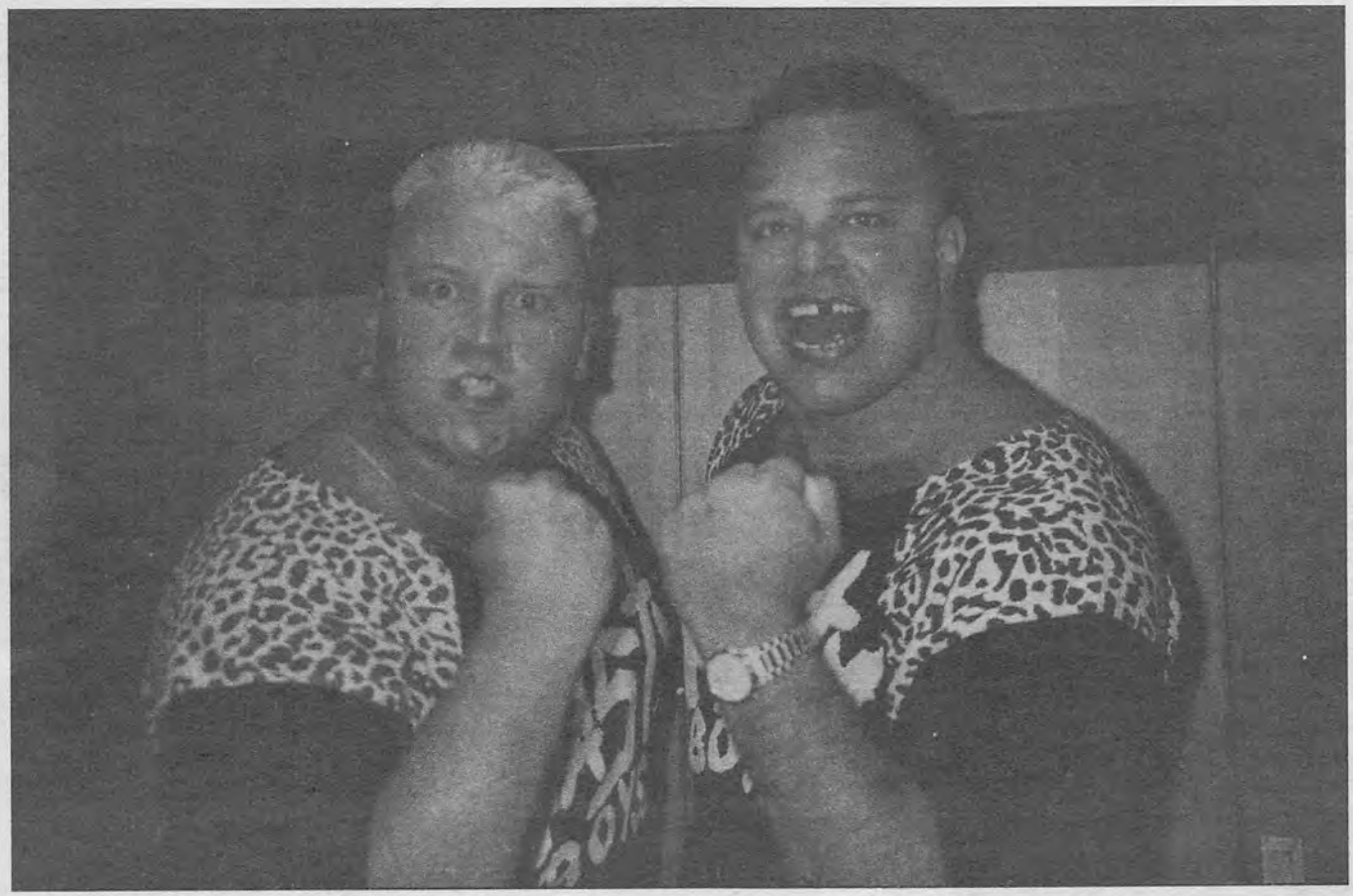
THE NASTY BOYS



The Most Unlikely Tag-Team Heroes of All!

by Michael O'Hara

BACK IN 1985, two rookie competitors–Jerry Saganowich and Brian Yandrisovitz–nervously crept into the professional squared circle for the very first time. The youngsters shared a checkered background, with little or no success in their previous fields, but they were determined to make the grappling game their profession.

They didn't set the world on fire during their first year in the professional ring; the determined, young lions took nightly beatings on Verne Gagne's now-defunct American Wrestling Association circuit, based out of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Still, they knew that hard work, determination, and persistence would pay off in the long run. How right they were! Eight years later, both 29-year-olds can look back on their long, hard climb with a content smile.

Yandrisovitz, a six-foot-three, 295-pounder, who now competes as Nasty Boy Brian Knobbs, remembers jumping from the Army to a brief stint as a mechanic before embarking on career in the grunt 'n' groan world. "I was interested in getting into pro-wrestling. I had a friend who knew George 'the Animal' Steele, and I was given the address for Verne Gagne's wrestling training camp in Hamel, Minnesota," recalls the blond brawler.

Jerry Saganowich, a six-foot-three 275-pounder, who is

better known today as Nasty Boy Jerry Saggs, was working as a bouncer at a local night club, but he knew that he was heading nowhere fast. The former star football player for Whitehall was convinced, like his longtime friend, Brian, that pro-wrestling was his only hope.

The apprehensive duo enrolled in the AWA training camp, but it was not without some controversy.

"We were getting mixed reactions from our family and friends," said Brian. "Our parents said we were making a serious mistake; they wanted us to get off of our dreamboats. They pointed out how we were throwing away solid jobs for a very risky undertaking. Most of our friends were supportive, so we decided to give it a whirl."

"We were lucky to get into Gagne's camp. You really have to be invited to participate. Luckily, we were friends with Los Angeles Raider Matt Millen. We used to lift weights with Matt at a local gym. He was our reference, and that got us through the door."

"Thousands of people want to get into professional wrestling. The Gagne school was always a very elite place to train. They only accept eight to ten candidates per session, " said Brian.

The training sessions were grueling; after the first few weeks, only six students survived: Jerry, Brian, the Master Blaster, the Alaskans, and a seven-foot-five, 525-pounder known as Silo Sam.

"It was pure torture," said Knobbs. There were many times when I wanted to quit. I knew I couldn't; I didn't want to slink back to my parents."

Both graduated from the Gagne's camp with flying colors, and they began their solo careers under the AWA banner in October of 1985.

"We were paying our dues. The

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Nasty Boy Knobbs "mugs" for the camera as he posed with *New Wave Wrestling's* very own New Zealand correspondent, "Dynamite" Dave Cameron.

"The Nasties" relaxed after another hard-fought victory.
photo: Dave Cameron

top names on the marquee were Jimmy 'Superfly' Snuka, Sgt. Slaughter, the Road Warriors, the Midnight Rockers, Larry Zbyszko, Doug 'Pretty Boy' Sommers, and 'Playboy' Buddy Rose. We wrestled anyone they threw at us, so the instruction didn't end at the training camp. It was really just beginning. It was a very tough time. We were getting eaten alive out there by guys who really knew how to rough you up. There's no sympathy in the ring," said Saggs.

After several months of seasoning, the battling buddies joined forces and the Nasty Boys were born! While they didn't rise to the top of AWA tag-team contention, the struggling combo held their own against the likes of the Midnight Rockers, Larry and Curt Hennig, and Sgt. Slaughter and Greg Gagne.

By 1987, their gloss began to shine. They captured the AWA Southern tag-team titles on Jerry Jarrett's Memphis, Tennessee rasslin' circuit, and eventually headed to Florida Championship Wrestling Promotions, based in Tampa. From 1988 to 1989, they held the Florida tag team straps on at least five different occasions. They signed with WCW in 1990, attaining their biggest break up to that point in time. Finally, the boys were coming of age.

The aggressive bullies engaged in a heated feud with the United States tag-team champions, Rick and Scott Steiner, but came up short in every encounter. The fans came to respect their abilities, albeit, the ringside crowd was not pleased with their tactics; however, they knew that Brian and Jerry had what it would take to rise to the very top someday.

Eventually, they were signed by Jimmy "the Mouth of the South" Hart, and they entered the World Wrestling Federation in style. They scored heavily against the Bushwhackers and the Rockers, as they moved up the rankings. The years of pain and sacrifice were starting to pay off. They upset the Hart Foundation: Bret "Hitman" Hart and Jim "the Anvil" Neidhart at Wrestlemania VII to capture the WWF World tag-team belts. It should be noted that outside interference by manager Jimmy Hart helped turn the tide of the battle in favor of the Nasties.

Their championship reign was filled with diverse competition. Teams, such as Sgt. Slaughter & "Hacksaw" Jim Duggan, the Rockers and the Bushwhackers, tried but failed to knock the brash bad boys from their top perch. It took the unbridled might of the Legion of Doom to finally unseat the champs. Brian and Jerry lost the gold at SummerSlam '91, but they were determined to reign supreme once more.

Tragedy stuck in January 1992. Saggs was stabbed several times by a gang of knife-wielding assailants. He bounced back quickly, but it was not without major, long-term changes in his personality. Perhaps the twosome had become too arrogant, and too nasty. Was it time for a change in ring philosophy?

Ted DiBiase and I.R.S. eventually captured the WWF tag gold, and a dilemma arose in the Jimmy Hart stable. He now managed the champions and one of the top contending teams. It was a situation that did not last. The Nasties were looking for a change. The WWF was sorely in need of new fan favorites, and it appeared that Jimmy Hart couldn't care less.

The Nasties broke loose, and they became honest-to-goodness ring "heroes." It remains to be seen if Brian and Jerry can gain the same amount of success on the other side of the fence. As we go to press, the fans have mixed reactions to their play-by-the-rules approach. Saggs and Knobbs may be trying their very hardest to be "nice," but the fans might not accept them as anything else but "nasty." Only time will tell. ***NWW***

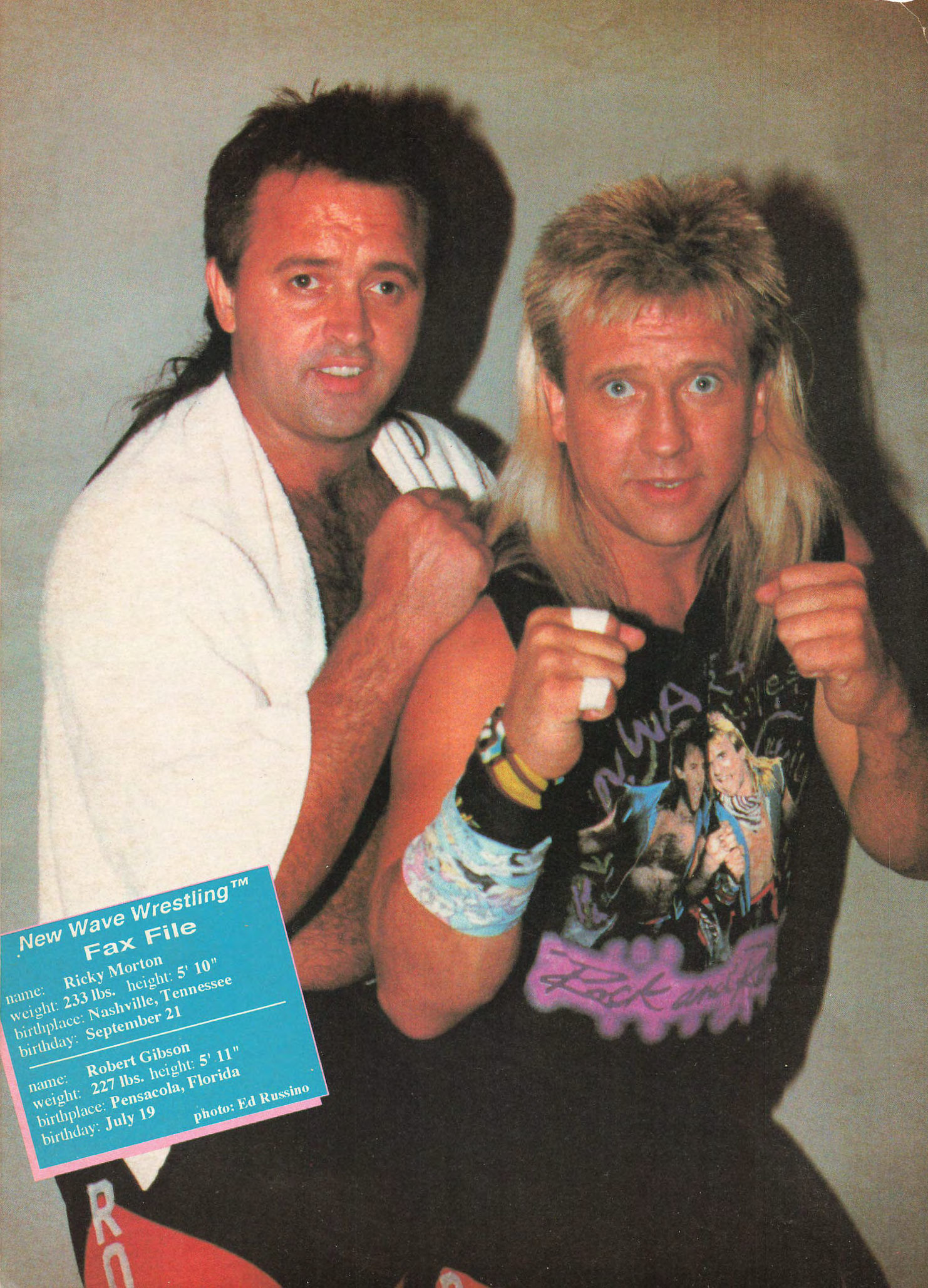
New Wave Wrestling™

Fax File

ring name: Nasty Boy Saggs
real name: Jerry Saganowich
height: six-foot-three
weight: 275 pounds

ring name: Nasty Boy Knobbs
real name: Brian Yandrisovitz
height: six-foot-three
weight: 295 pounds

titles held: WWF World tag, AWA Southern Tag & Florida tag

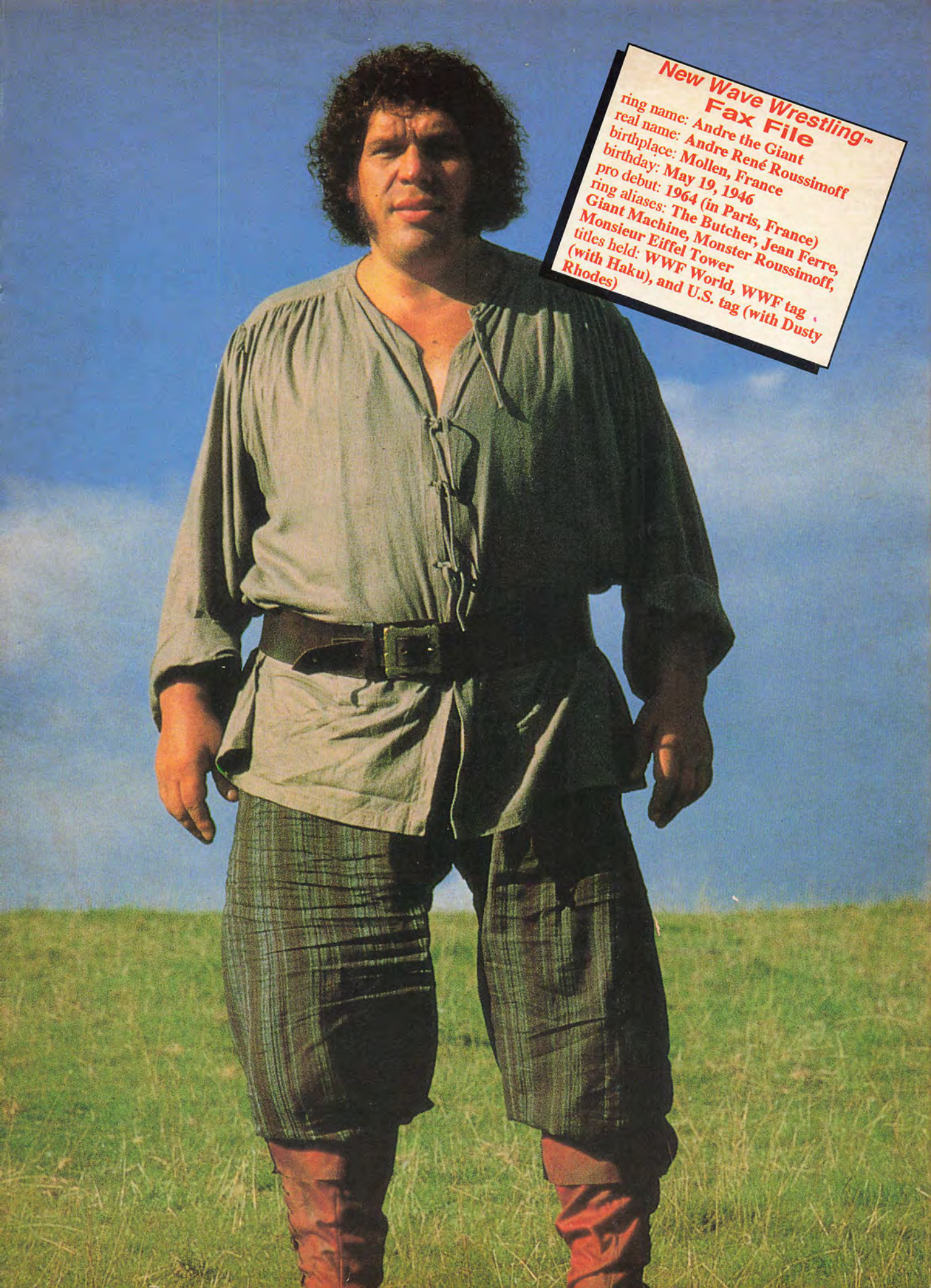


New Wave Wrestling™
Fax File

name: Ricky Morton
weight: 233 lbs. height: 5' 10"
birthplace: Nashville, Tennessee
birthday: September 21

name: Robert Gibson
weight: 227 lbs. height: 5' 11"
birthplace: Pensacola, Florida
birthday: July 19

photo: Ed Russino



New Wave Wrestling™ Fax File

ring name: **Andre the Giant**
real name: **Andre René Roussimoff**
birthplace: **Mollen, France**
birthday: **May 19, 1946**
pro debut: **1964 (in Paris, France)**
ring aliases: **The Butcher, Jean Ferre, Giant Machine, Monster Roussimoff, Monsieur Eiffel Tower**
titles held: **WWF World, WWF tag (with Haku), and U.S. tag (with Dusty Rhodes)**

New Wave Wrestling™ Fax File

name: Crystal Blue
hometown: Saco, Maine
trainers: Misty Blue & Little Louie
background:
Third–degree Black Belt (karate)
U.S. Ladies Karate champion (twice)
toughest opponents:
Kat LeRoux, Linda Dallas

photo: Jon Simmes

Warrior Woman

CRYSTAL BLUE

The Terminator of the Squared Circle!

Crystal relaxes in her karate gi! photo: Jon Simmes

NW: How old are you, Crystal?
CB: I am twenty-one years old.
NW: Where are you from?
CB: I'm from Saco, Maine. I was raised by a mother who was very strict, and, unlike my sister, who moved to New York City, I led a very sheltered life before breaking into wrestling, believe it or not.
NW: Who trained you?
CB: I was trained by Little Louie and, most recently, by my sister Misty Blue.
NW: What is your training schedule like?
CB: I spend three hours a day working out at the gym or at the Maine Pro Wrestling Center, which is run by wrestler Little Louie.
NW: What did you do before you became a wrestler?
CB: I studied karate. I have a third-degree black belt in karate, and I was also a two-time U.S. Ladies Karate Champion.
NW: How did you get started in professional wrestling?
CB: I was asked to replace Heidi Lee Morgan after the LPWA split her up from Misty when they were Team America. Before that time, I had never, ever been in a wrestling ring before.
NW: Why is your nickname "The Terminator?"
CB: Misty gave me that nickname because I broke Kat LeRoux's ribs and dislocated Linda Dallas' elbow with my karate moves. I have also retired several young ladies from the wrestling ring. NCW officials have reversed several wins because of my use of karate in wrestling. I do have to say that after studying karate for eight years, it's hard to hold back, especially when your opponent starts breaking the rules. I have a wicked temper, and once I get angry, it's sometimes very hard for me to stop.
NW: Who has been your toughest wrestling opponent?
CB: I would have to say that, so far, Kat LeRoux has been my toughest opponent in the ring. My first major wrestling match was against Kat. The match was all hers until I clotheslined and kicked her three times. I broke two of her ribs, and she left the ring in a hurry! She still

bears a grudge against me. Kat has stated that I have won the battle, but the Nasty Girls will win the war. We'll see about that.

NW: Do you have a favorite wrestler?

CB: Yes, I do! My favorite wrestler is "Cowboy" Chris Duffy. He takes more punishment than any wrestler I've ever seen, and I admire him for that.

NW: What is your ambition as a wrestler?

CB: Well, my sister, Misty Blue, has been wrestling for over eight years, and she has been to many places. I want to travel, too, and see all that I can. I hope to stay healthy, so that I can continue to keep wrestling and traveling.

NW: Would you like to wrestle for any of the major promotions?

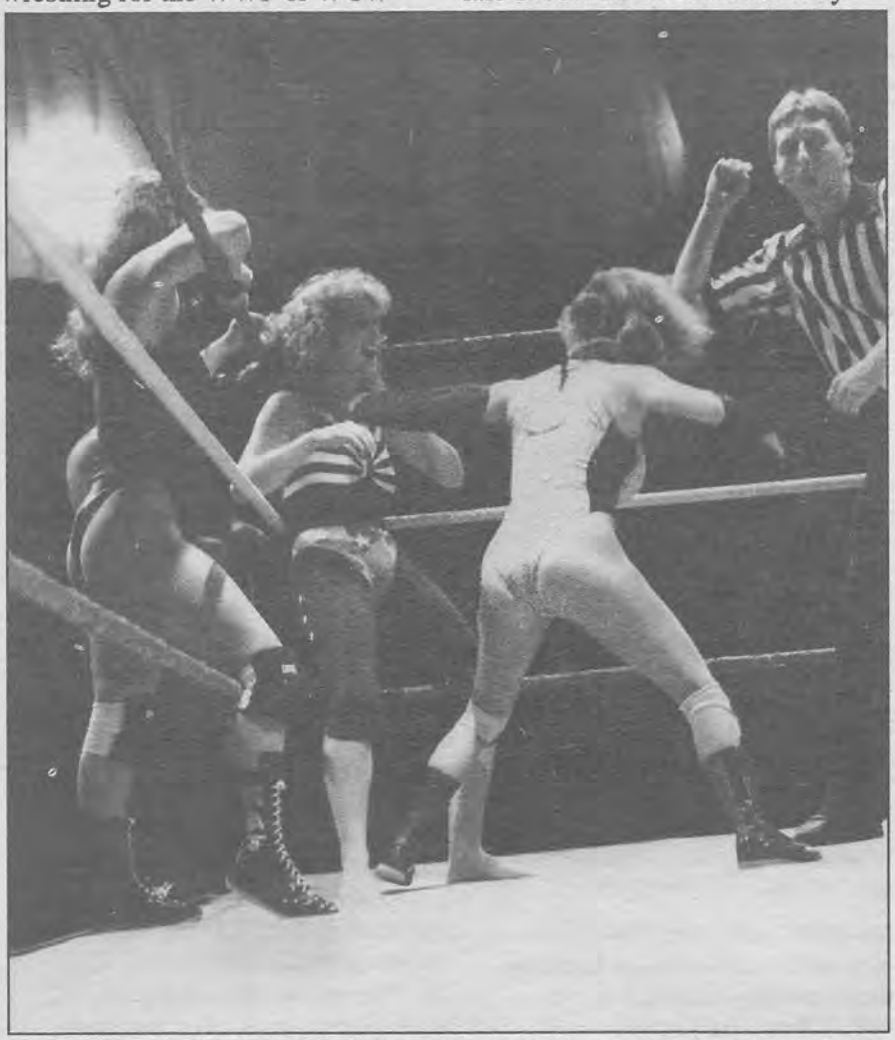
CB: I don't really care about wrestling for the WWF or WCW that much. There's too much behind-the-scenes politics going on in those promotions, and it's not worth the money they pay you. I don't need the aggravation. Besides, they wouldn't take the chance of hiring somebody like me — I would be busting heads in the office if they pulled any garbage on me. My philosophy is treat me fairly, and we'll get along. If you mess with me, I'll beat you senseless. No doubts, no apologies, no mercy. Believe me, I can and will do it!

NW: Do you have any other interests?

CB: Besides wrestling and karate, I like to go out dancing. I have won many dance contests. I also enjoy saltwater fishing.

NW: What kind of music do you enjoy listening to?

CB: I like rock and roll from the late 1960s. The music was really great then.



Kat LeRoux held Crystal's hair as Linda Dallas took advantage of the situation. photo: Jon Simmes

NW: As we come to the end of this interview, do you have any closing words that you would like to say?

CB: I'd just like to warn all lady wrestlers that if you take any cheap shots at me, I will end your career! That's a promise.

NW: Thank you, Crystal, and good luck with your career.

CB: You're welcome. *NWW*

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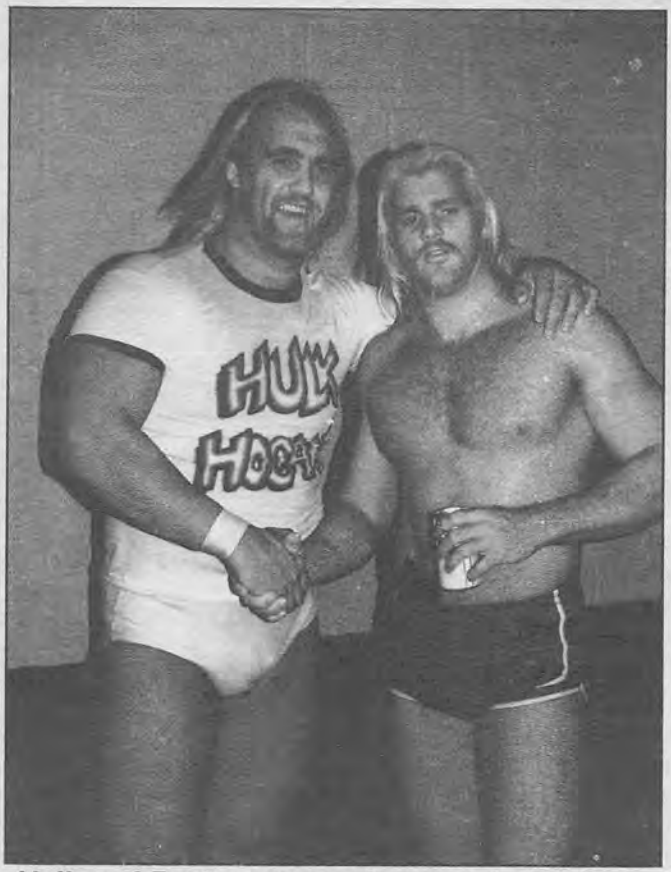
Hulk Hogan & Brutus "The Barber" Beefcake are enjoying tag-team success, but how long will it last?

MEGA-MANIACS DESTINED FOR DESTRUCTION

by Michael O'Hara



Hulk and Brutus are no strangers to tag-team competition. Both men are seen here as "Hulk" and "Dizzy" Hogan (circa 1979). photo: Michael O'Hara

When it comes to big events, Hulk Hogan always seems to have lady luck standing at his side as an able tag-team partner. He's come back from the depths on more than one occasion, only to rise to even new heights. Whether it's been title reigns or movie roles, the Hulkster has always been at the right place at the right time. Hulk Hogan is a plain old, lucky guy.

Like the mighty chain that is only as strong as its weakest link, Hogan has his deficiency as well....in the tag-team department. Let's face it, gang, when you've been a popular solo mat star for well over a decade, it must be very hard to relinquish your half of the center ring spotlight to a partner who is achieving main-event status purely by association. This is not to be disrespectful to the Hulk's fine array of teammates over the years, but egos are well inflated in the grappling biz, and that includes the egos of Hogan and his partners. The proof is in the pudding as they say, so let's take a look at the blond bomber's "batting average" as a tag-team competitor.

Hulk's first tag-turned-feud erupted with the always volatile Paul Orndorff. After a stint as a fan favorite, "Mr. Wonderful" returned to his rulebreaking ways (with encouragement from manager Bobby "the Brain" Heenan). The WWF champ and Orndorff had a series of impressive tag-team victories until Paul exhibited the famed "Pearl Harbor" attack that we've all come to know all too well in the rassling game. Their feud culminated with an unbelievable match held at Toronto, Ontario, Canada's Exhibition Stadium on August 28, 1986. Hulkamania prevailed over the forces of evil. (What did you expect?)

Next in line for the disgruntled tag-mate storyline was the late, great Andre the Giant, who took to his role as a ring villain like a duck to water. The partner-turned-rival sent attendance figures soaring once again. Who will ever forget when 93,000 mat enthusiasts filled Pontiac, Michigan's Silverdome to witness the Hulkster pinning the "Eighth Wonder of the World" in approximately 15 minutes!

Before the Mega-Maniacs, we had the Mega-Powers—namely, Hogan and the WWF World champion Randy "Macho Man" Savage. Another unstable tandem that inevitably ended up as the main event at Wrestlemania V on April 2, 1989 at Trump Plaza in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Once again, "the Real American" rose to the

The boys posed as Terry "the Hulk" and "Dizzy" Ed: The Boulder Brothers, a powerhouse tag-team combo on the CWA/Memphis, Tennessee circuit in 1979. photo: Michael O'Hara

occasion by not only vanquishing his hated ring foe but also regaining the World heavyweight gold!

Sid Justice (the former Sid Vicious in WCW) was brought into the WWF fold as an alleged "Hulk supporter." That didn't last too long as one of the double main events at Wrestlemania VIII was, you guessed it, Hulk versus Sid! The April 5, 1992 event, held in Indianapolis, Indiana, seemed to be a prelude to an even bigger grudge series that was to come. Unfortunately, Justice left the promotion shortly after 'Mania VIII, so all the Hulkster had to his credit was a disqualification win. It was a victory nonetheless.

Now we finally come to the Mega-Maniacs. In early 1993, the Hulk came to the aid of his longtime friend Brutus Beefcake (Ed Leslie). The twosome started off their illustrious careers as a fictitious brother tag-team combination in the late 1970s. The reason that so many fans insist that the duo are siblings can be traced back to this time period. As the Boulder Brothers, Terry "the Hulk" and "Dizzy" Ed showed tremendous promise. They had the necessary ingredients to make it as champions. Both men have certainly succeeded up to their abilities.

The favored heroes went to work at teaching the dastardly duo of Money Incorporated a thing or two, but where do they go from here? Will the Hulk find satisfaction in the tag-team division, or has he already set his sights on the WWF World title again? With the glimmer of Hollywood trailing off in the distance, it's a sure bet that Hulkamania will be running full-steam ahead this coming September. Where will that leave Brutus?

Through good times and bad, the amiable allies have always been there for one another, but the possibility of record-breaking crowds and unparalleled sums of money could put all of that aside. Wealth will do strange things to a man. In this case, both athletes are well aware that their careers are drawing to a close. This might be their last guaranteed mega-payday!

In each of Hulk's grudge feuds with Orndorff, Andre, etc., it should be mentioned that the World Wrestling Federation harvested bumper crops of standing-room-only crowds. With wrestling down from its apex in popularity, what better way for the WWF to fill its coffers than by inducing animosity between "the Hulk" and "the Barber."

Enjoy the Mega-Maniac while you can. If history repeats itself, you'll be buying a pay-per-view ticket for the Hogan-Beefcake grudge match in the not-too-distant future! *NWW*

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The INDEPENDENT Scene

compiled by Michael O'Hara

• **AIWA (California):** Dr. Jerry Graham, "Desperado" Mark Kissell & "Bad Boy" Bubba Storm defeated the Medic, Spike Cantillo & Torbellino Blanco to win the vacant three-man tag-team championship.

• **APW (Texas):** All-Pro Wrestling, based out of Houston, has been promoting cards regularly at the Laredo Civic Center.... Chaz is back after a successful tour of Mexico, where he wrestled as the American Chippendale.... Konnan El Barbaro and the Love Machine (the former Betelgeuse in WCW) have made guest appearances in recent months....Others include: The Butcher Brothers, Tugboat Taylor, Gary Young, The Nuclear Assassin, Psycho, and G.Q. Knight.

• **AWL:** Angelo Poffo's new group, based in Sarasota, Florida, recognizes the following champions: Bill Kazmaier is the Brass Knuckles champion; Tyree Pride is the Caribbean champ; the Star Riders hold the tag-team belts; Ian Weston is the junior-heavyweight champion; and "Leaping" Lanny Poffo is the undisputed World champion (which is disputable!)

• **BIG-D (Dallas, Texas):** The Blackbirds ("Iceman" Parsons and Action Jackson) continue their feud with Ian and Axyl Rotten.... Others under the Big-D banner include: "Cowboy" Bobby Duncum Junior, Hollywood" John Tatum, and Jimmy James.

Don "The Rock" Muraco is headlining on the ECW circuit. photo: Craig Prendergast

• **BTW (Ohio):** Promoter James Hines continues to bring top talent into his independent organization. Recent feuds have included The Junk Yard Dog vs. the Grim Reaper; Big Time Wrestling tag champions-The Fantastics (Bobby & Jackie Fulton) vs. "Nature Boy" Buddy Landell & Badstreet....Bambi holds the Ladies championship.

• **CW-USA:** Sandy Barr's Portland, Oregon-based promotion continues as a league in constant change. The titles are changing hands so rapidly because of a continuous turnover in talent. It is impossible to list their current roster of titleholders...The popular Top Gun returned to the promotion, listed as the CW-USA International champion, and he began a grudge feud with "Diamond" Timothy Flowers as well as the Samoan Nightmares..."Big" C.W. Bergstrom and Larry Oliver (the son of "Crippler" Rip Oliver) are back... The TV title has jumped around a great deal between Bart Sawyer, John Rambo,andCol. DeBeers... Top Mexican star Konnan El Barbaro and the Love Machine (promoter Sandy Barr's son, Art) made a brief appearance in the territory, and they made it a winning one by defeating the Samoan Nightmares for the Northwest tag-team titles...Others in the area include: Mike Winner, Al Madril, Billy Two Eagles, Max Steele, Jesse Barr, and Lou Andrews.

• **ECW:** Todd Gordon's Philadelphia, PA group has been providing some hot action in recent months.... The Sandman holds the ECW gold, while the Super Destroyers are the tag kingpins... Don "the Rock" Muraco, the British Bulldog (Davey Boy Smith), Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka, Ivan Koloff, Sal Bellomo, "Hot Stuff" Eddie Gilbert, and Terry Funk are just some of the stars who have seen action under this banner. This organization began airing TV tapings on the SportsChannel cable network in April. Their tapings are held in Radnor, PA.

• **GWF:** Global Wrestling has been taken off the ESPN Sports cable network... Rod Price has been feuding with Mike Davis over the North American strap....Awesome Kong and King Kong have been colliding with "Cowboy" Bobby Duncum Junior and John Hawk over the GWF tag-team titles....Veteran "Killer" Tim Brooks has been lacing up the wrestling boots again!.... "Gentleman" Chris Adams defeated Black Bart (Jim Harris) in a series of taped fist matches.... Other GWF

stars include: Manny Villalobos (rumored to be the son of the legendary "Apache" Bull Ramos), Alex Porteau, Johnny Mantell, Steve Dane, the Ebony Experience, Steve Simpson, the Angel of Death, and Calvin Knapp.

• **ICWA (Florida):** As always, more changes in this Tampa-based league. The Cuban Assassin holds the ICWA heavyweight title..."Diamond" Dallas Page (now booking the talent here) and "Gorgeous" Jimmy Garvin have returned to the promotion after successful stints in WCW...The Roman Gladiators are the tag champs... Steve Keirn is expected to return this fall.... Others in the area include: Lou Perez, Bob Cook, Colt Steele, Allan Iron Eagle, Big V" Vern Henderson, the Storm Trooper, and Brian Hennig (rumored to be the younger brother of Curt "Mr. Perfect" Hennig).

• **IWF:** A masked wrestler calling himself Odessa Slim is doing a remarkable impersonation of Dusty Rhodes on this circuit.... Chubby M.C. is the TV champ... Greg Valentine is under the management of Nasty Ronnie... IWF Grapplerette A.J. Watson is the granddaughter of former NWA World champion "Whipper" Billy Watson.

• **MEWF:** This Maryland league recognizes Lucifer, the Knight of the Road as their champion....Nicolai Volkoff has been feuding with Morgas the Maniac.... The Sonic Express ("Hardrock" Ricky Blues and Nick "the Shark" Tarantino) are the area's tag-team champs....The Lightning Kid is the light-heavyweight titleholder.

The Love Machine (Art Barr) and Konnan El Barbaro are thrilling fans throughout the United States and Mexico. photo: Bob Murphy

• **NEWF:** New England Wrestling Federation is based out of Waterbury, VT...Brittany Brown is their Ladies' champion.... Top stars that have been appearing on spot shows include: Demolition Ax, Jim "The Anvil" Neidhart, Legion of Doom's Hawk, and the Warlord.

• **SMW:** "White Lightning" Tim Horner is the "Beat the Champ" TV titleholder....Jim Cornette's Heavenly Bodies now consist of "Sweet" Stan Lane, Dr. Tom Prichard, and "Beautiful" Bobby Eaton... The Nightstalker is looking to regain the TV title from Tim Horner....The Dirty White Boy has been feuding with Tracy Smothers over the Smoky Mountain heavyweight crown.... "Prime Time" Brian Lee recently defeated Kevin Sullivan in a number of "falls count anywhere in the building" matches... Other SMW stars include: Dutch Mantell, Jimmy Golden, the Rock & Roll Express, Robert Fuller, and the original Mongolian Stomper.

• **UIW:** Midgets "Little Nasty Boy" Donny and Coconut Willie have appeared recently... Ed "Moondog" Moretti is the UIW heavyweight champion. He has been defending his title in coal miner glove matches against "Playboy" Buddy Rose.... Scott Braden defeated Tommy Justice in a retirement match.

• **USWA:** Jerry "The King" Lawler, the USWA undisputed World heavyweight champion, has been making mincemeat out of invading WWF stars, including: Doink the Clown, Lex Luger, "Mr. Perfect" Curt Hennig and Randy "Macho Man" Savage.... Doink has also been teaming with Jeff Gaylord in a number of tag-team matches against Lawler and Jeff Jarrett...WWF ring announcer Howard Finkel went to a no-contest with manager Harvey Whippleman on a February 8 card in Memphis, Tennessee!...Miss Texas whipped manager Bert Prentice in a number of "street fights."... The Bruise Brothers (Ron & Don Harris) and the Moondogs are feuding over the USWA tag-team straps..."Hot Stuff" Eddie Gilbert has a family feud with his younger brother Doug... Others on this circuit include: Danny Davis, Mike Samples, the Masters of Terror, Chris Michaels, Todd Champion, and Tony Williams.

• **UWS:** This group is running shows throughout the five boroughs of New York City...S.D. Jones, Battle Cat, Hercules Hernandez, Demolition (Ax and Blaster), and the Bushwhackers have seen recent action. *NWW*

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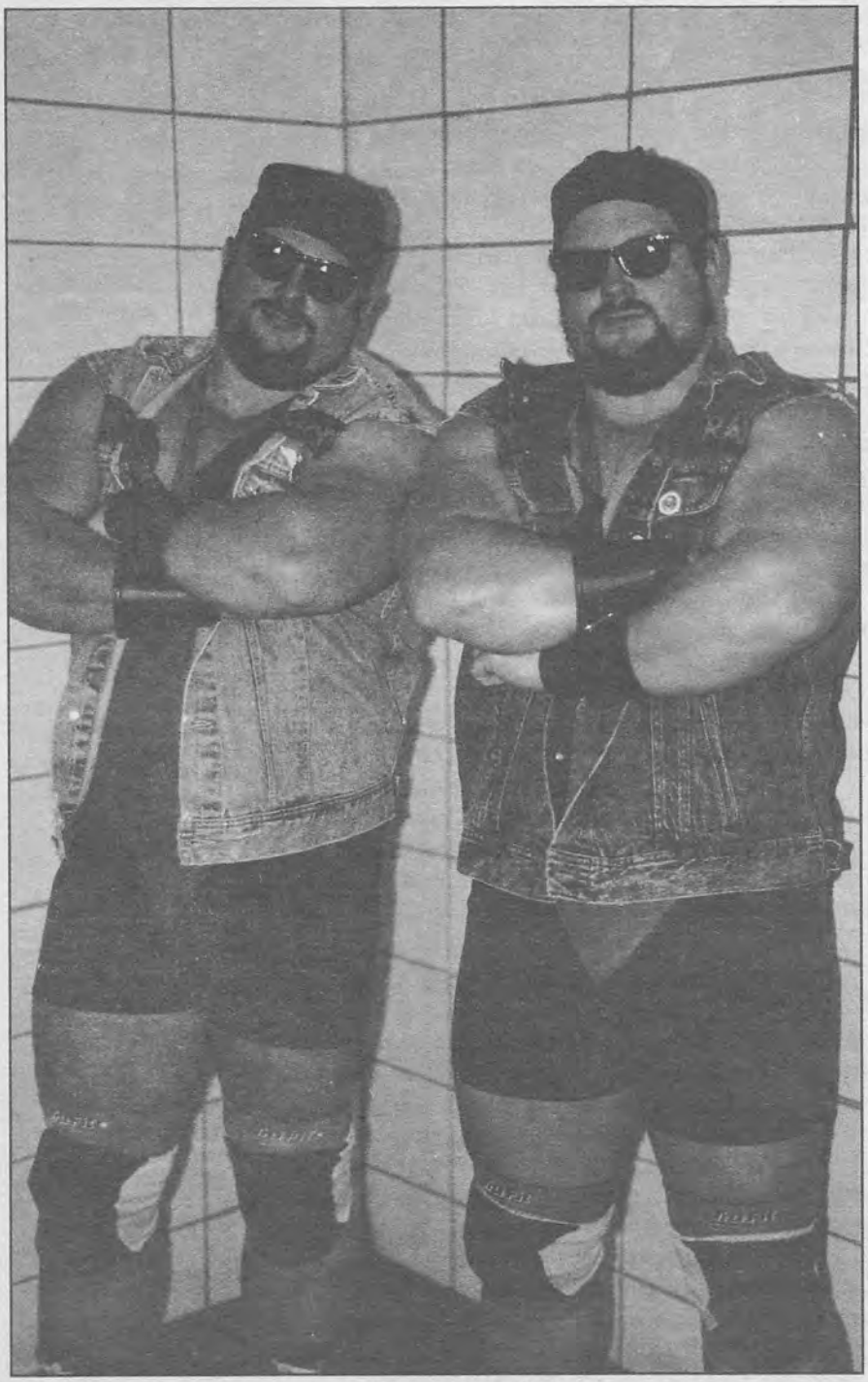
NEXT GENERATION

POWER TWINS

Matdom's Newest Ring Terrors!

interview by Billie Jessee
photos by Jerry Wilson

In recent years, many young lions of the grappling game have opted for solo careers. Because of this situation, there appears to be a shortage of talented tandems on the horizon. Larry and David, the Power Twins, are seizing this opportunity to catapult themselves into main-event status. Tag teams of the world—beware! The Power Twins are looking to make a reputation for themselves, and it might very well be at your expense!



NW: What are your ring names?
PT: We are David and Larry—the Power Twins.

NW: Where are you guys from?
PT: We're from the toughest place on earth—Brooklyn, New York.

NW: How old are you?
PT: We are thirty years old.
NW: How long have you been professional wrestlers?
PT: We've been wrestling for close to seven years.
NW: How did you get started in the grappling game?
PT: Well, when we were working as bouncers, someone from the New York Wrestling Commission came over to us and said that we had the right size and attitude for the wrestling business. We talked with him for awhile, and we then decided to give professional wrestling a try.
NW: Who trained you?
PT: We were trained by the two best wrestlers in the sport—Dr. D. David Shults and Bobby Bold Eagle.
NW: What kind of sports background do you have?
PT: We participated in amateur

wrestling, football, and hockey while in high school and college. We've also been avid weightlifters since our teen years.

NW: Did you pattern your style of wrestling after anyone?

PT: We don't think so. We're pretty much original in our style. There isn't another tag team of twin brothers currently competing in the sport that we're aware of. That is what makes us unique.

NW: What are your strongest points as wrestlers?

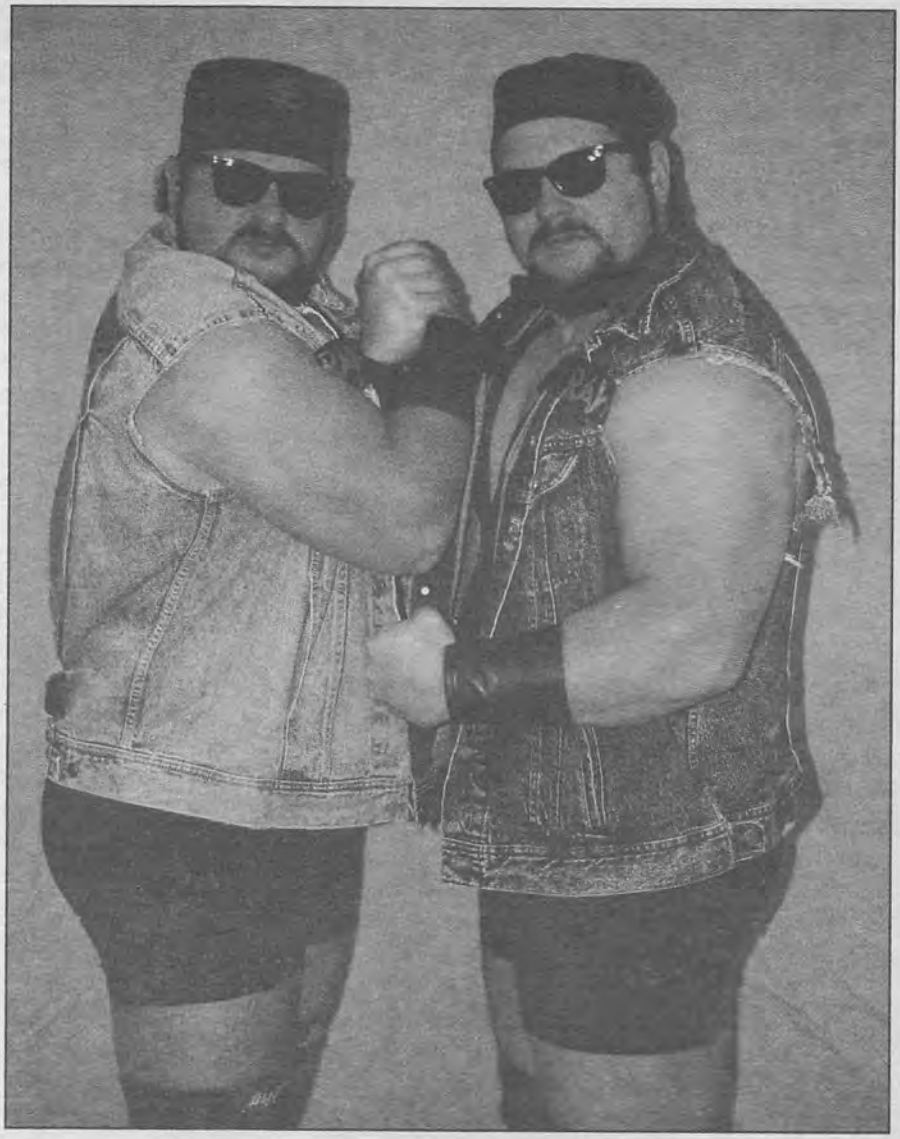
PT: First of all, our size. We're six feet, two inches tall, and we each weigh three hundred pounds. We also have great speed and strength. We were taught two different styles of wrestling: The rough and tough style by David Shults, and the high-flying moves by Bobby Bold Eagle; therefore, we can incorporate the two styles and do whatever it takes to win. There isn't another team in the game that can do the things that we can do in the ring.

NW: Which promotions have you worked for?

PT: We've worked for the ICW in Kansas City, USWA in Memphis, Stampede in Calgary, and UWF in New Jersey.

NW: Have you wrestled overseas?

PT: Yes, we've wrestled in Europe,



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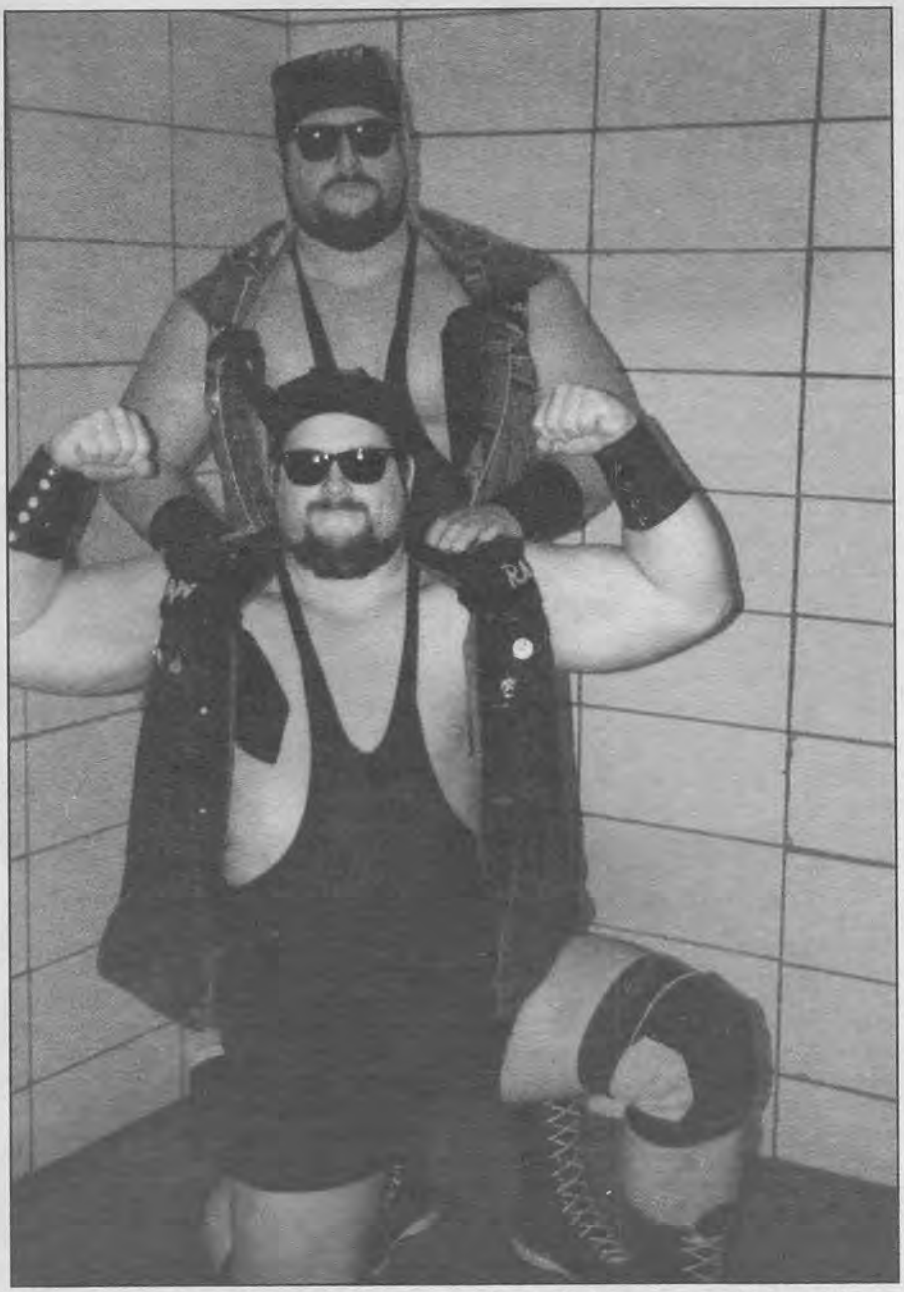

Africa, Mexico, and Puerto Rico. We have more international bookings in the very near future.

NW: Who have been your toughest opponents in the ring?

PT: The Moondogs, the original Wild Samoans, and the Killer Bees have all been tough competitors.

NW: How often do you train?

PT: We're in the gym about five or six days a week. We are all natural—we do not use steroids. We work harder than the other guys guys, and it's been paying off.

NW: Have you wrestled single as well as a tag team?

PT: Yes, we've wrestled single, but we prefer to be tag-team partners. We don't have ego problems. That is why we're successful at what we do.

NW: What do you think of the independent promotions?

PT: The independent promotions have their good points as well as their bad points.

NW: Do you admire any wrestlers?

PT: We admire David Shults very much. He's a very tough wrestler. Bobby Bold Eagle is pretty amazing in the ring, too. We also like "Dr. Death" Steve Williams, Terry "Bam Bam" Gordy, and "Nature Boy" Ric Flair. There are so many great wrestlers that it's very difficult to name them all.

NW: What titles have you held?

PT: We've held the ICW tag-team title belts.

NW: What is your favorite finishing move?

PT: We rack the guy over the shoulder while the other comes off the top rope with an ax or elbow.

NW: Have you had any serious injuries in the ring?

PT: Only the expected bumps, bruises, and broken noses. Nothing really that serious.

NW: Do you think there is too much wrestling on television?

PT: TV has changed the way people look at wrestling. It has broader appeal, but it has also hurt the live shows. Rather than come to the arena shows, people opt to stay home and watch wrestling on TV. Television has both helped and hurt wrestling.

NW: Do you think that promoters should have random drug testing?

PT: Well, as far as using drugs, we think it should be an individual choice; however, if a person is going to do it, they should keep it out of the limelight. If a wrestler does his job in the ring, we really don't think the public has the right to know what he does outside of the ring.

As far as random steroid testing goes, we feel that it should be left up to the individual promoters.

NW: What do you think it takes to be successful in this business?

PT: To be successful in wrestling, you have to have one thing for certain: Perseverance. We're not going to stop until we reach the mountaintop.

NW: Are either of you married?

PT: No, we're happily single.

NW: What kind of music do you enjoy listening to?

PT: Rock and roll, of course.

NW: Thank you, David and Larry, for this interview. Good luck with your tag-team career. ***NWW***

New Wave Notebook

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1763	Lone Ranger Festival (Clayton Moore)
1764	Betty Boop Festival (2 hours!)
1765	U.B. Iwerks Cartoons (90 minutes)
1768	Christmas Video Special (2 hrs!)
1770	Cartoon-mania! (2 hours!)
1772	Christmas Video Special II
1773	Max Fleischer Cartoons (90 minutes)
1774	Superman Cartoons (2 hours-Max Fleischer)
1775	Gulliver's Travels (Max Fleischer cartoon)
1776	Classic Television 1 (Bob Hope-1950)
1777	Classic TV 2 (Dragnet/Danny Thomas)
1778	Classic TV 3 (Groucho/Ozzie&Harriet)
1779	Classic TV 4 (Steve Allen Show -1960)
1780	Classic TV 5 (Abbott & Costello)
1781	Mars Attacks World (Flash Gordon)
1783	Nosferatu (1922 - silent Dracula film!)
1786	Father's Little Dividend
1788	Wild World of the Bat Woman (1966)
1789	Zorro's Fighting Legion (Episodes 1-6)
1790	Zorro's Legion Serial (Episodes 7-12)
1791	Dick Tracy, Detective (1945)
1792	Dick Tracy vs. Cueball (1945)
1793	Dick Tracy Meets Gruesome (1947)
1794	Dick Tracy's Dilemma (1947)
1796	Santa Claus Conquers The Martians
1822	Captain America Serial (Episodes 1-7)
1823	Captain America Serial (Episodes 8-15)
2751	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 1: Dusty Rhodes
2752	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 2: Paul Orndorff
2753	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 3: Ted DiBiase
2754	All-Star Wrestling # 1: Bob Orton
2755	All-Star Wrestling # 3: Ricky Steamboat
2756	All-Star Wrestling # 4: Roddy Piper
2757	All-Star Wrestling # 8: Mike Rotunda
2758	All-Star Wrestling # 11: Kamala
2759	All-Star Wrestling # 16: Butch Reed
2760	Wrestling's Golden Era # 1: The Sheik
2761	Wrestling's Golden Era # 2: Andre the Giant
2762	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 4: David von Erich
2763	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 5: Dick the Bruiser
2764	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 6: Pampero Firpo
2765	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 7: "the Hulk"
2766	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 8: Tito Santana
2767	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 9: Bobo Brazil
2768	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 10: "the Hulk"
2769	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 11: Terry Taylor
2770	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 12: Gorgeous Geo
2771	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 13: Butch Reed
2772	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 14: Jim Duggan
2773	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 15: Ric Flair
2774	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 16: Ric Flair
2775	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 17: Guerrerro Bros.
2776	Super Wrestling All-Stars # 18: Fantastics
2777	Pro-Wrestling Action # 1: Victor Rivera
2778	Pro-Wrestling Action # 2: Abdullah
2779	Pro-Wrestling Action # 3: Prof. Tanaka
2780	Madison Square Garden's All-Time Greats!
2781	Santo & Yellow Mafia(Spanish/No Subtitles)
2782	Dudley Do-Right Cartoons # 1 (2 hours!)
2783	Dudley Do-Right Cartoons # 2
2784	Dudley Do-Right Cartoons # 3
2788	Fantastic Four Cartoons # 1 (1967 - 2 hours)
2789	Fantastic Four Cartoons # 2
2791	George of the Jungle Cartoons # 1 (2 hours)
2792	George of the Jungle Cartoons # 2
2795	King Leonardo Cartoons # 1 (1960s - 2 hrs.)
2796	King Leonardo Cartoons # 2
2797	King Leonardo Cartoons # 3
2804	Milton the Monster Cartoons # 1 (1960s-2hrs)
2805	Marvel Super-Heroes # 1 (1966 - 2 hours)
2806	Marvel Super-Heroes # 2
2807	Marvel Super-Heroes # 3
2808	Marvel Super-Heroes # 4
2815	Hercules in New York (1970)
2816	Spider-Man Cartoons # 1 (1967 - 2 hours)
2817	Spider-Man Cartoons # 2
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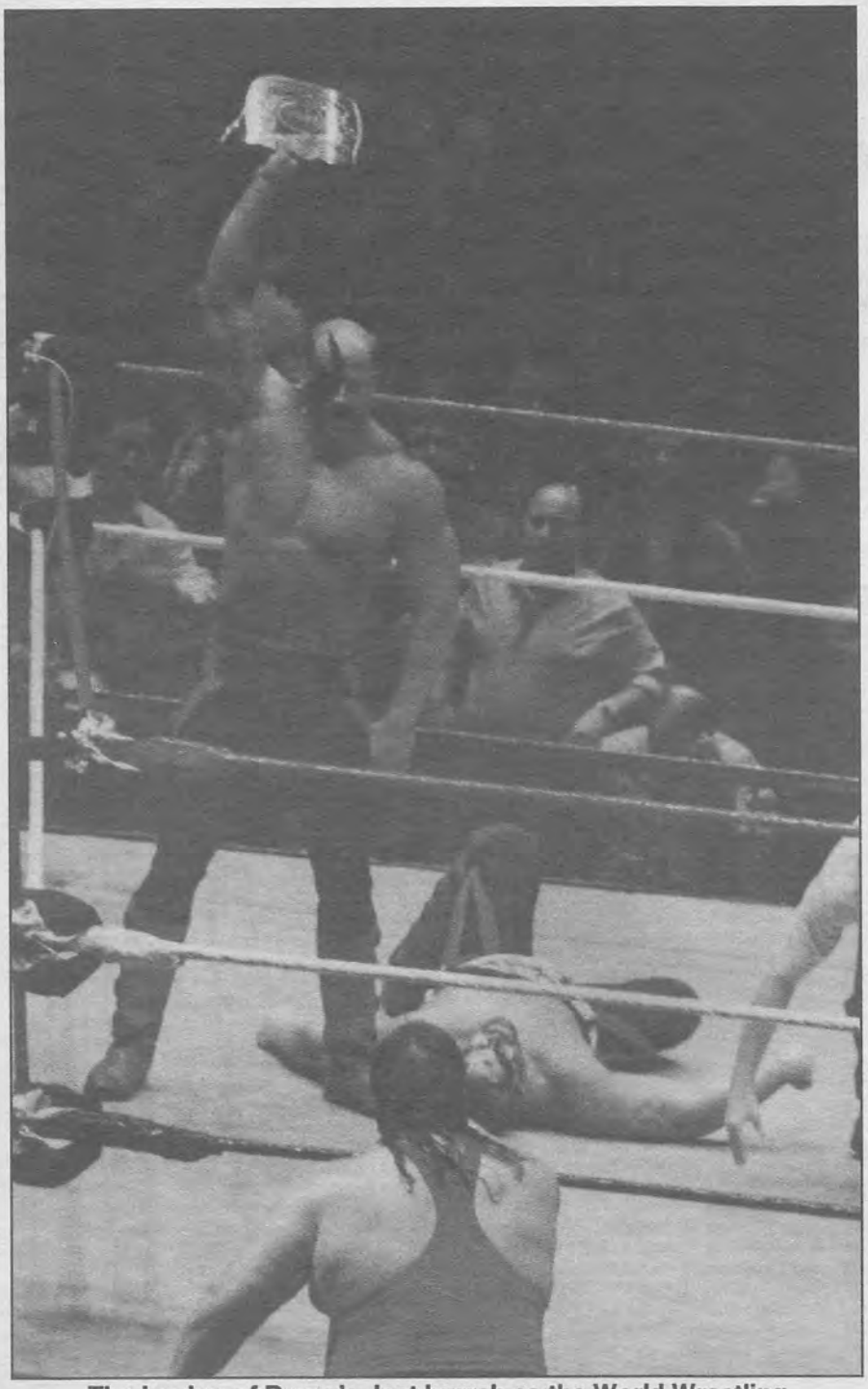
The Legion of DooM

Their Rise And Fall

by Michael O'Hara



The Legion of Doom's last hurrah as the World Wrestling Federation heavyweight tag team champions: Will we ever see their likes again? photo: Michael O'Hara

A ten-year grappling dynasty has ended. In its wake stands a lasting memory of what was, perhaps, the greatest tag-team combination of the modern era! Animal and Hawk weren't a part of contemporary tag-team wrestling. They WERE tag-team wrestling!

WHETHER THEY WERE CALLED THE Road Warriors or the Legion of Doom, it really didn't matter. No other tag team in recent years has left such an indelible mark on the tag-team division as Animal and Hawk. Their tremendous domination over each and every organization that they wrestled in became just as much a curse as it had been a blessing. Because of their incredible talents, they were put in the unenviable position of making all other competitors look inferior—a fate worse than death in the eyes of a major-league wrestling promoter.

Reaching the highest of heights in the grappling game came about as a result of sheer desperation. Both men have confessed on numerous occasions that they were mixed-up youngsters; not knowing what they wanted to do, or how tough the world really was. They had to prove something to themselves. They had to find something at which they could excel. They found their mission....

professional wrestling.

While no one can deny the phenomenal success that the feared twosome has garnered over the past ten years, there always seemed to be an unstable element to their position in the sport. Most of this was through no fault of their own; they were merely caught in the middle of the numerous, ongoing promotional wars. In spite of the situation at hand, they amazed, thrilled, and inspired their millions of fans since the beginning of their illustrious careers in 1983.

Animal (Joseph Laurinatis) was born on January 26, 1960 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He was the first member of the team to turn professional. In September of 1982, Joe made his debut as the Road Warrior under the Georgia Championship Wrestling banner. His brief stint in the promotion showed great promise, but there was still work to be done. The future tag master continued to perfect his craft, competing as Joe Lauren throughout the South and Midwest for the next few months, until teaming up with partner, Hawk.

Hawk (Michael Hegstrand) is another Minnesota native, born on September 12, 1957. Upon graduation from 'Professor" Eddie Sharkey's wrestling school in Edina, Minnesota, Mike signed with promoter Al Tomko in Vancouver, British Columbia, competing under the name of Crusher von Haig for most of 1982.

The tag team known as the Road Warriors arrived on the Georgia wrestling scene in 1983, and they literally took the promotion by storm. Clearly, they had not yet mastered the finer points of the game, but their massive bulk and unbridled power was enough to drive the most experienced opposition through the mat and into the depths of defeat. Within nine months, they were crowned as the National tag-team champions for the Georgia-based NWA affiliate. Thanks to their appearances on WTBS, the cable superstation, the Road Warriors became a household name! Fans turned in week after week, not to see if the Warriors could defeat their poor, unfortunate ring rivals, but how long it would take them to demolish any capable tandems.

HAWK! photo: Sandy DeLuca

They were hailed as the promotion's top seeds, but the organization had fallen prey to the massive talent raids of Vince McMahon and his World Wrestling Federation. Georgia Championship Wrestling was going down for the three count, and it was suggested that the boys return home and compete for Verne Gagne's American Wrestling Association, based in Minneapolis.

Despite the fact that the painted punishers were booked as ring villains, fans in Wisconsin, Colorado, and Minnesota just loved their no-holds-barred approach to the sport. On August 25, 1984 in Las Vegas, Nevada, they defeated Baron von Raschke and the Crusher for the AWA World tag honors. From that moment on, nothing was going to stand in their way. After turning back the challenges of Curt & Larry Hennig, Sgt. Slaughter & Gerry "Crusher" Blackwell, the Fabulous

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The Warriors performed a double-standing military press on Hulk Hogan and Genichiro Tenryu. photo: Koichi Yoshizawa

Ones, Tommy "Wildfire" Rich & Jerry "the King" Lawler, and Greg Gagne & Baron von Raschke, promoter Verne Gagne came to the realization that there were no other teams in the Warriors' league. As has always been the case in the mat business, when all else fails, turn villains into heroes.

The manic musclemen continued to remain true to their traditional style, only this time, they were colliding with the likes of the Fabulous Freebirds as well as Nick Bockwinkle & Ray Stevens. They eventually lost the tag belts to the unlikely combination of "Gorgeous" Jimmy Garvin and Steve "Mr. Electricity" Regal (with outside interference from the Freebirds).

The boys ventured onto the international arena in early 1985 by accepting bookings with "Giant" Shohei Baba's All-Japan Wrestling Promotions. Immediately, they rose to the top level as the International heavyweight tag-team champions, and found themselves making $10,000.00 per week. While the likes of Hulk Hogan and Stan "the Lariat" Hansen had attained a tremendous following in the Orient as solo performers, the Road Warriors were clearly their equal as tag-team superstars in the eyes of the Japanese fans.

They returned to the NWA, and captured the 1987 Jim Crockett Senior Memorial Cup, as they continued to rip their hapless foes limb from limb. They captured the NWA tag crowns again in 1988, but it would be downhill from there.

By the late 1980s, the Road Warriors were considered by most fans as the most unstoppable combo in the sport. While Hulk Hogan ruled the solo U.S. rings, the Road Warriors were masters of the U.S. tag division. Everyone knew this, especially WWF honcho Vince McMahon Jr., who continuously tried to lure the leather-clad dynamos to jump over to his promotion. When negotiations finally reached a standstill, McMahon created his own "Roadie-clones" known as Demolition: Ax (Bill Eadie, the former the masked Superstar), Smash (Barry Darsow, the former Krusher Khrushev, and now wrestling as Repo Man), and eventually Crush (Bryan Adams).

What can be said about the Demolition team? They were talented enough, and they had charisma. But to take liberties with a political quote: The fans knew the Road Warriors. The Road Warriors were their favorites, and, believe me, Ax and Smash were not the Road Warriors.

What became ironic about the Demolition-Road Warriors comparison was the fact that Animal and Hawk were the originals; yet, because of poor matchmaking, they were being made to look as if they were the inferior product. Demolition had maintained a level of excellence on the WWF championship scene that surpassed the famous NWA tag team. It was reaching a point where fans were convinced that Ax and Smash were a better duo.

The Roadies had seen the writing on the wall. For more years than they cared to remember, they were stuck in pointless feuds with the likes of the Powers of Pain, the Samoan Swat Team, and Doom (Butch Reed & Ron Simmons). The results were always the same: More worthless victories that brought them no closer to a championship match. All the while, Demolition was acquiring a sizable following as a result of numerous reigns as WWF tag kingpins.

Realizing that their reputations were

on the line, they arrived on the WWF scene in 1990, and quickly entered into a lackluster six-man tag feud with partner, the Ultimate Warrior, against the Demolition trio. Once again, they floundered in pointless grudge matches against the Orient Express (Pat Tanaka & Paul "Kato" Diamond) and Power & Glory ("Hercules" Hernandez & Paul Roma).

The feared twosome left the Federation and returned to Japan. On March 30, 1991, they picked up where they left off. The powerful gladiators defeated the popular combination of Genichiro Tenryu and Hulk Hogan via count out at 14:03. The spectacular main event at Wrestlefest '91, a joint venture by SWS and WWF promotions, was witnessed by 40,000+ fans at the Tokyo Eggdome.

The brash brawlers returned to the World Wrestling Federation for another go-round; this time, they got what they came for! They defeated the Nasty Boys for the WWF World tag-team championship on August 26, 1991 at SummerSlam, held at New York City's Madison Square Garden. Animal scored the winning pinfall over "Nasty Boy" Brian Knobbs.

Near the end of their tenure in the promotion, they became a part of an embarrassing skit involving a ventriloquist dummy called Rocco, who was hailed as their team mascot. The less said about this, the better!

Two days after SummerSlam '92, Hawk came to a parting of the ways with both his longtime partner and the World Wrestling Federation. Animal stayed on, and, ironically, teamed with Crush on a European tour. (Remember, Crush was a former Demolition member!) He claimed that the years had begun to take their toll, and his WWF schedule of 250 days on the road was just too much.

Hawk signed with New Japan Promotions. On November 23, 1992, he unveiled the new Road Warriors, teaming with Kensuke Sasaki as Road Warrior Power. He later decided to change the name of the team to the Hell Raisers. Meanwhile, Animal has returned to Minnesota, and he is currently mending numerous nagging ring injuries, allegedly receiving substantial financial compensation from his Lloyd's of London disability insurance policy.

If Hawk, in fact, was tired of the road, you would never know it from his current itinerary. On December 14, 1992, the Hell Raisers defeated Tony Halme and Scott Norton for the IWGP tag-team titles. Power (Kensuke Sasaki) clotheslined and pinned Tony Halme at 6:10 to capture the gold.

Less than a week later, on December 19, 1992, in Bremen, Germany, Hawk pinned Luc Porier at 19:27 to win his first solo title — the CWA World heavyweight championship.

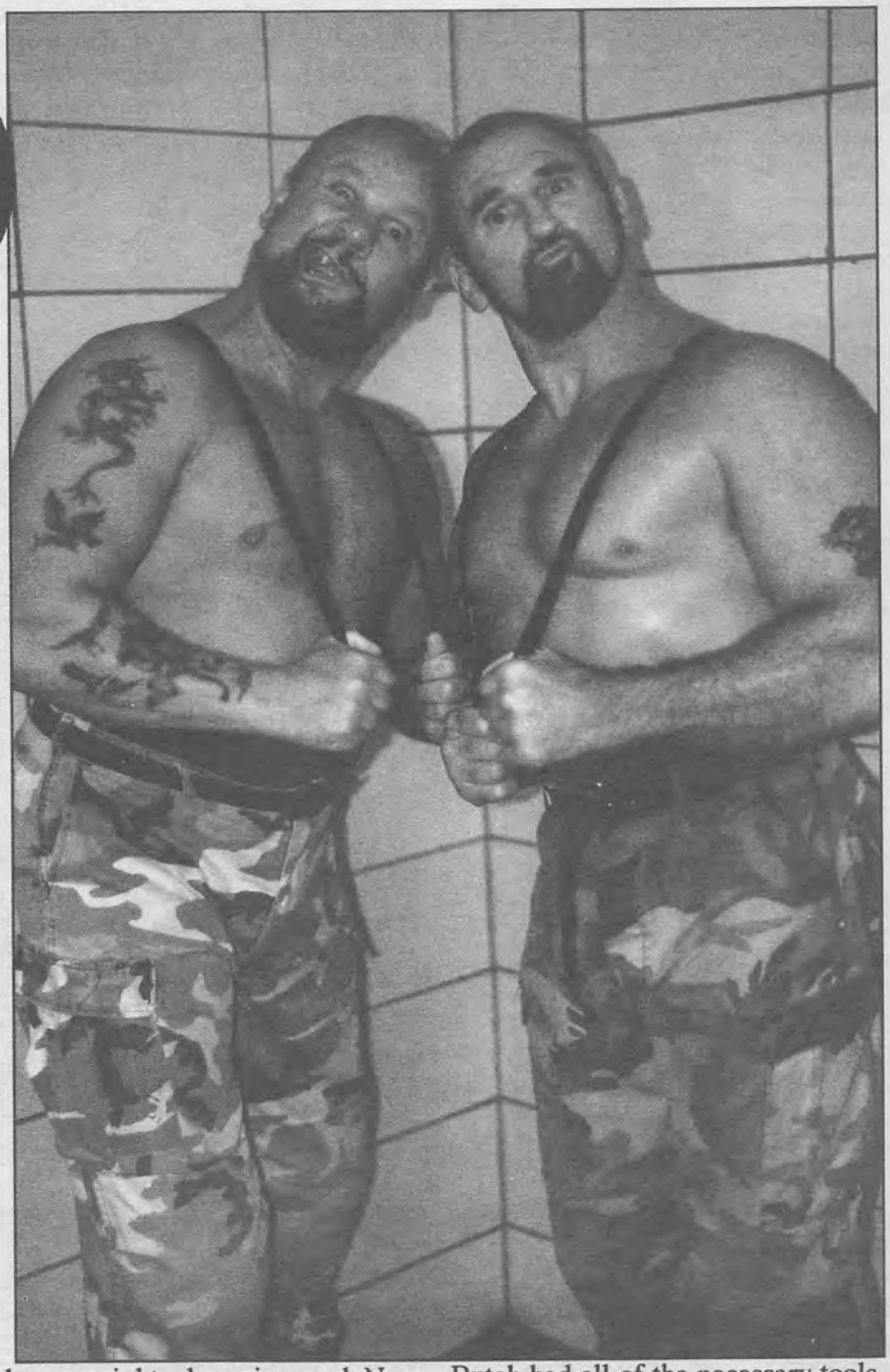
The Hell Raisers have since gone on to defend their golden laurels against such distinguished pairings as Masa Chono & Hiroshi Hase, the Steiners, Brad Armstrong & Tony Halme, and Masa Saito & Riki Chosyu.

According to those close to both Animal and Hawk, there is no animosity between the two mat monsters. Sometime, perhaps in the not too distant future, we'll see the Road Warriors return to active competition. Until then, we have memories of their incredible past exploits, and accomplishments. They were truly the best. ***NWW***

The BUSHWHACKERS

Beloved Blokes!

by Michael O'Hara
photos by Dave Cameron



THE BUSHWHACKERS ARE KNOWN TO their millions of diehard fans as rascally rogues from the land down under—New Zealand—but few are aware of the rowdy rasslers' incredible twenty-plus years of international wrestling competition. They make it all look so easy in within the confines of the squared circle; however, this effortless success is the result of countless years of professional combat.

Robert Williams and Brian Wickens, better known as "Butch" Miller and Luke Williams, respectively, are known worldwide as a couple of three-hundred-pound teddy bears. Their unusual strut and vaudevillian antics would lead the casual fan to believe that they're all sizzle and no steak, but nothing could be further from the truth.

Although it is hard to believe, but the wacky duo wasn't always at the top of the popularity polls. In the course of their illustrious careers, Butch and Luke have done their fair share of bone bending and skull smashing. At one time, they were one of the most feared teams on the international circuit, and their trail of broken bones and all-out carnage are still spoken of in hushed tones around the grappling globe.

This powerful duo from Porirua, Wellington, New Zealand started their professional stints in their native land. Both brawlers credit "Big" John DaSilva, the former British Empire heavyweight champion and New Zealand's resident 300-pound legend, as the man who turned thee two burly weightlifters into bona fide world-class competitors.

Butch, who is three years older than Luke, was the first member of the team to make it into the professional ring. At five-foot-ten and 234-pounds, Butch had all of the necessary tools needed to defend himself in the mat world. During the 1970s, Miller was incredibly fortunate to be at the right place at the right time. Both New Zealand and Australia were literally bursting at the seams with top international talent. Although the going was incredibly rough, Butch was able to

compete against the very best from the United States, England, South Africa, the Polynesian Islands, and, of course, the local greats.

Legends "King" Curtis Iaukea, Dick "the Bulldog" Brower, Mark Lewin, Abdullah the Butcher, Ox Baker, Rick Martel, and Peter Maivia were just some of the superstars that rookie Butch Miller had to contend with. Being the staunch competitor that he is, he never stepped back one inch; he just forged ahead in spite of the tremendous odds.

Luke eventually made his way on to the circuit, and they quickly found themselves teamed for tag action. They called themselves The Kiwis—"Brute" Miller and "Sweet" Miller. Their ring personas were a far cry from their current incarnation as lovable lugs. From the moment the bell rang, The Kiwis were total mat mayhem.

Within a matter of months, news spread to North America that there was a team in New Zealand blowing the rooftops off the Kiwi arenas, and the promoters began to inquire about this wild combination.

They were eventually signed for matches in Calgary, Alberta, Canada for promoter Stu Hart's Stampede Wrestling Promotion. The Kiwis wasted little time in establishing themselves—they quickly garnered the International tag-team straps in a decisive victory over the popular Scott Brothers. For some time, they successfully defended the gold against the very best that the region had to offer, including Steve and Danny Little Bear, and Dino Bravo and Gino Brito.

After conquering Alberta, they ventured on to Jack Britton's Gran Prix circuit in Montreal, Quebec. Montreal was another hotbed for action in the 1970s, and the circuit was filled with the finest gladiators of the era, including: Walter "Killer" Kowalski, Gilles "the Fish" Poisson, Johnny War Eagle, Maurice "Mad Dog" Vachon, "Tarzan" Tyler, Eduoard Carpentier, the Hollywood Blonds (Jerry Brown & Buddy Roberts), Don Leo Jonathan, Dominic Denucci, Tony Parisi, and a young rookie sensation wrestling under the name of Jean Ferre (who would later become Andre the Giant).

Here's a classic pix from our *New Wave Wrestling* Unbelievable but True Dept.—The Kiwis circa 1975!

After their Canadian commitments were completed, they returned to the international mat scene, and competed in a number of tournaments throughout Australia, New Zealand, and Singapore, under the watchful eye of New Zealand promoter Steve Rickard. Unlike the United States, Australia and New Zealand has seen a slow but sure decline in professional wrestling. Bookings were becoming harder and harder to get, so the terrible twosome decided to embark on an American tour.

The United States didn't exactly open their arms to the Kiwi ruffians. They found themselves scratching and clawing for bookings from coast to coast, literally traveling on the long and lonesome highway seven days a week.

Eventually, they were spotted by an NWA talent scout, and they were offered a spot with Jim Crockett's Mid-Atlantic Promotion, based in Charlotte, North Carolina. The New Zealand Sheepherders, as they were called, literally cleaned house, and quickly rose to the top of the list as one of the NWA's most dangerous combinations. They were wild, rude, and incredibly crude, but no one underestimated their talent. They were as tough as they come.

As has been the case for most of the 1980s, WWF honcho Vince McMahon, Junior liked what he saw in the unpredictable team, and he hired the talented terrors as, of all things, a pair of outrageous "nonconformists." McMahon had tried to capitalize on the success of the Crocodile Dundee movie at an earlier time with a wrestler known as "Outback Jack," but the results were disastrous. This time, the WWF kingpin felt that the idea would succeed as Luke and Butch had that all-important missing ingredient—talent!

The team was an immediate smash hit, and the fans never seem to get enough of them. Through it all, Butch and Luke have taken fame and fortune in stride. As Butch has stated in the past, "No matter how much money we make, the important thing for us is to stay normal people, just a couple of ordinary Kiwi blokes." *NWW*

INTERNATIONAL SLAMS

compiled by Michael O'Hara

AUSTRALIA

Δ *AWF:* Promoter/wrestler Don "the Rock" Muraco recently completed another successful tour. Matches included: The Junk Yard Dog defeated Muraco; Jushin "Thunder" Liger pinned Chris Benoit; Jim "the Anvil" Neidhart stopped Jake "the Snake" Roberts; and Dean and Joe Malenko surprised Mark "Snap" Mercedes and Greg Smit. Others included: "Blazing" Bobby Blaze, Rico Fredrico, Con Iakovidis, and A.J. Freeley.

AUSTRIA & GERMANY

Δ *CWA Promotions:* Promoter Otto Wanz has been doing exceptional business in recent months. His influx of international talent has attendance figures stretching beyond 10,000 for classic matches. Recent stars participating in CWA action have included: "Rambo" Luc Porier, Catch Wrestling Alliance World heavyweight and former Legion of Doom member, Hawk (Michael Hegstrand), Ireland's Dave "Fit" Finlay, "Hot Stuff" Eddie Gilbert, "Cannonball" Grizzly, CWA World tag-team champions "Lethal" Larry Cameron and "Mad Bull" Buster, Eddy Steinblock, Klaus Kauroff, Franz Schumann, Steve Wright, Colonel Brody, Dave Taylor, Giant Haystacks, Steve Regal, "Bruiser" Mastino, the Warlord, "Buffalo" Petersen, and Mile Zrno.

Frankie Sloane is a six-foot-three, 210-pounder who is making his mark in the British rings. photo: Al Marshall

CANADA

Δ *Canadian Championship Wrestling:* The 1993 season (Spring to late October) is set to begin. Wrestlers expected to compete throughout the period include: 205-pound Soaring Eagle, Leo Burke, Todd McPhee, seven-foot-three, 325-pound Acadian Giant, "Bad Boy" Eddie Watts, "Texas Outlaw" Rick Patterson, "Big" Stephen Petitpas, Danny Littlewolf, "Butcher" Vachon (not the original), the Cuban Assassin, Goldie Rogers, midgets Tiger Jackson and the Irish Leprechaun, and "Blazing" Bobby Blaze.

Δ *International Wrestling Alliance:* This Calgary, Alberta promotion has been running spot shows. No champions are listed as we go to press. Gerry Morrow, Brett Como, Steve Gillespie, Jake Steele, Jason Helton, Bill Jodin, Shane Kroft, P.J. Walker, Biff Wellington, and Chris Jereco have worked under this banner.

Δ *Universal Independent Wrestling:* This group is running shows throughout British Columbia and Washington state. "Playboy" Buddy Rose continues to be the top contender for Ed "Moondog" Moretti's UIW heavyweight crown. The circuit also features the Grappler (Len Denton), Buddy Wayne, Moose Morowski, Ole Olson, Tommy Justice, Johnny Graham, Rick Lee, Billy Two Eagles, "Diamond" Timothy Flowers, and midgets "Little Nasty Boy" Danny and Coconut Willie.

Δ *West Coast Championship Wrestling:* "Big" John Tenta, also known in WWF circles as the Earthquake, has seen limited action here...The promotion recognizes no champions at present, but includes the following: Michelle Starr, Buddy

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Indiana Jones & Last Crusade # 1(VG) -$2.00
Iron Man #78 (G) - 75¢, 89 (G-) - 55¢, 92 (G-) - 55¢, 153 (G) - 75¢, 155 (NM) – $2.25, 175(M), 195(VF), 197(G+) – $1. ea., 198(M) – $1.75, 198(G) – 75¢, 208, 212, 213, 214, (all M) – $1.00 ea., 237, 239, 243 (all M), 253(VF+) -$1.00ea. 258(M) – $3.25, 263, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278 (all M) – $1.50 ea.
Iron Man Annual #9(FN) – $1.25, 12(M) – $2.25
Marvel Holiday Special # 1(VF) - $2.00
Marvel Milestone: Amazing Fantasy # 15 reprint (VG+) - $2.25
Marvel Super-Heroes #15(G), 21(VG)-$2. ea.
Marvel Saga #2(M) -$1.
Marvel Spotlight # 27 (G) - 75¢
Marvel Super-Heroes Summer Special (1991-mint) - $3.00, Summer 1992 (NM) - $2.50
Mighty Thor #428 (M) – $1.00, 432(M) – $3.25, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 444 (all M) – $1.00 each, 459 (NM - 1st Thunderstrike) - $1.75
Mighty Thor Annual # 16(M), 17(VF)-$2.25 ea.
Namor Annual #1(M) – $2.00
Spider-Man # 23(F), 29 (F) - $2.00 each
Sub-Mariner # 63(G) - 75¢
Tales to Astonish #52, 53, 75 (all G-) –$4.00 ea.
Terminator 2: Judgement Day (VG) - $4.00
World Championship Wrestling # 6(F) - $1.50
X-Force – #1(Mint) sealed set of five, with all five different trading cards) - $11.00 per set
X-Factor # 71(VG) - $2.
X-Men (1990) # 1 (VG) - $2.25

MISC.

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Creepy (Harris Pubs.) #1(NM) –$3.95
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Jughead (Archie) #37 (NM) –$1.00
Last of the Viking Heroes (Genesis West) #1(Jack Kirby cover), 2 (all VG+) – $2.00 each
Official How to Draw Robotech (Blackthorne) #2, 5(all VG+)–$1.50 ea.
Official Mandrake Monthly #4 (ink stain on binding, F) – $6.95
Popeye: The Collectible (Krause Publications) - 256 pages of Popeye collectibles - $19.95
Prince Valiant Monthly #4 (ink on binding -VG) - $3.75, #5 (VG+) -$5.50
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Rat Fink (World of Fandom) #1, 2 (M) – $2.50 ea.
The Spirit (Kitchen Sink) #1 (VG+) – $3.50
Tales From the Crypt (reprint) #1(VF) –$1.50
Terminator: Hunters & Killers (Dark Horse) #3 (NM) – $2.50
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Web-Man (Blazing) #1 (VG+) – $1.50
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MAGAZINES

Amazing Heroes # 33, 171 (G) - $1.50 each
Comics Interview # 99, 101, 104, 106, 109 (all G) - $2.50 ea., 112, 113 (NM) - $3.50 ea.
Cracked #261(VG)-$2.
Ecco #14(M) –$1.00
Filmfax #12, 18, 20, 24 (all VF)– $5.00 ea.
Grandslam Baseball Magazine Spring/90 (NM) – $1.75
MAD #283(VF) –$2.00, 285(M), 301(VF+), 305 (M) –$2.00 each.
Mighty Mouse Magazine #1 (VF) – $2.00
Monsters Attack #5(VG) – $2.00
Superbowl Classics #2(NM) – $1.75
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Video Marketplace April 1990(M) - $1.00

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Wayne, "Firefighter" Adrian, Johnny Canuck, "Diamond" Timothy Flowers, the Basher, the Inferno, "Moose" Morowski, Ole Olson, Mighty Quinn, Randy Tyler, Mike Roselli, the Olympian, the Samoan Hitman, Doug Masters, Cobra, "Vicious" Verne Siebert, and Akam Singh.

GREAT BRITAIN

Δ ***All-Star:*** Promoter Brian Dixon has scored a major coup by procuring the services of the original British Bulldog— namely, the Dynamite Kid (Tom Billington). The Dynamite One has been feuding with the great Dave "Fit" Finlay... Former WCW star P.N. News is competing here as trhe Avalanche... Other U.S. stars on tour have included: The Mongolian Mauler and "Heavy Metal" Patterson.... Lots of British wrestlers are changing their names as of late— the U.K. Earthquake (Scrubber Daly), the Legend of Doom (Johnny South), and the Sting (Phil Barker). Danny Collins, Dave Taylor, Robbie Brookside, and Doc Dean are also seeing action here.

Δ ***Ring Wrestling Stars:*** Promoter Max Crabtree continues his nationwide bookings featuring stellar attraction... The Undertakers (Gloom and Doom) are seeing main- event action... Big Daddy is still the major draw here...Others include: The Valentine Brothers, Kendo Nagasaki, Giant Haystacks, "Irish" Tony Stewart, the Sizzler, Alan Kilby, Johnny Angel, Spinner McKenzie, and Barry Douglas.

Δ ***Pro-Wrestling South:*** Mat legends Brian "Gold Belt" Maxine and Steve Grey have been tag teaming here... John Prayter is feuding with Karl Krammer...Simon Slaymaker has defeated middleweight champion Clive Cannell in several nontitle matches...The U.K. Nasty Boy Finch is touring with PWS...This group features stars from throughout the country, including: "Superstar" Sander, Pete LaPaque, Hitman, Scot Conway, Tarzan Wilson, Ricardo the Rebel,and Lewis Blain.

The Ultimate Dragon stomped away on the Samurai during this NJWP event. photo: Koichi Yoshizawa

JAPAN

Δ ***All-Japan:*** Mitsuhara Misawa holds the Triple-Crown championship... Masanobu Fuchi is the junior-heavyweight champ... Dan Spivey and Stan Hansen edged out the Patriot and the Eagle in their recent feud...Steve Williams and Terry "Bam Bam" Gordy remain the top tag team in the promotion... Dory Funk Junior is back on the scene...Kurt Beyer, the son of Dick Beyer, and known as the Intelligent, Sensational Destroyer, made his professional debut recently... Recent top Americans have included: Abdullah the Butcher, Kamala II, Rob Van Dam, Giant Baba, and Johnny Ace.

Δ ***All-Japan Women:*** This group recently celebrated its 25th anniversary... The promotion is also working with the other female leagues. Bat Yoshinaga has been defendinging her WWWA Martial Arts championship... Chigusa Nagayo has returned from a four-year retirement, and she is currently feuding with Devil Masami...Others include: Terry Power, Mima Shimoda, Combat Toyoda, Yumiko Hotta, Debbie Malenko, Aja Kong, Bull Nakano, and Harley Saito.

Δ ***Frontier Martial Arts Wrestling:*** Atsushi Onita has regained the World Martial Arts championship from the Sheik... Sabu has been tag teaming with his uncle, the original Sheik (Ed Farhat), who is defending his U.S. title here. Others on the circuit include: Tiger Jeet Singh Senior & Junior, Eiji Ezaki, and Dr. Looser.

Δ ***Japan Women's Promotion:*** The top feuds here include: Akira Fuyuoka and the Bolshoi Kid against Candy Okutsu and Mayumi Ozaki; Devil Masami and Tenma are tag teaming against Cuty Suzuki and Prim Marico.

Δ ***New Japan Pro-Wrestling:*** The Hell Raisers (Road Warrior Hawk and Kensuke Sasaki) are the IWGP tag champs... Recent Americans on the circuit include: Brad Armstrong, "Prime Time" Ron Powers, Tazmaniac, Scott Norton, and Bam Bam Bigelow.

MEXICO

Δ ***AAA:*** Konnan El Barbaro has become one of the top draws here.... AAA is looking to tour the U.S. in the near future.

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CANDID CONTENDERS

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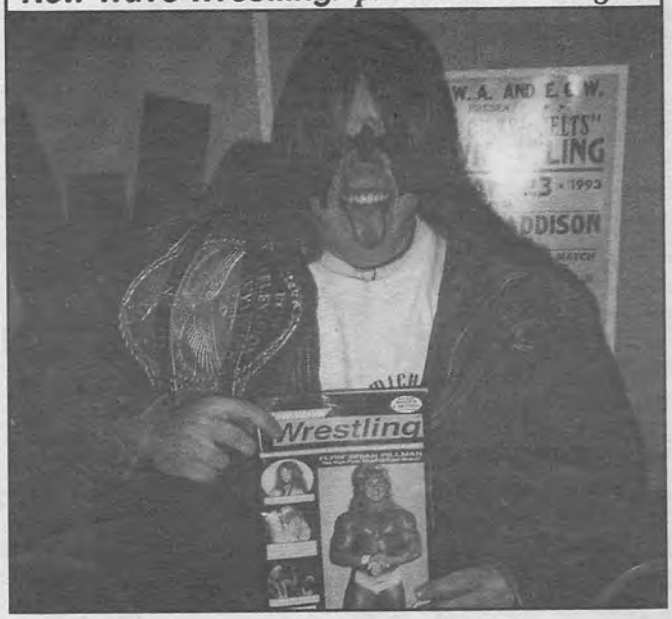
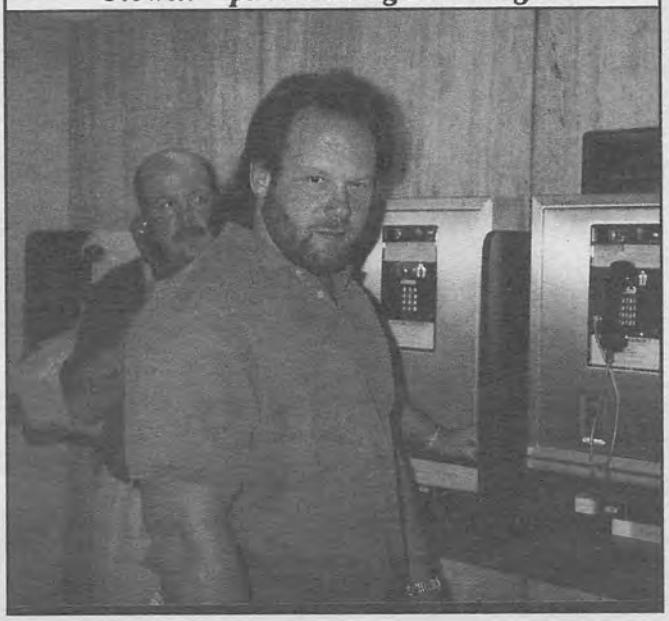
Two all–time greats—Paul "Mr. Wonderful" Orndorff & Walter "Killer" Kowalski. photo: Don Laible

ECW TV champ Glenn Osbourne went mad for New Wave Wrestling. photo: C. Prendergast



It's hard to believe that this man is Doink the Clown! photo: Craig Prendergast



Here's the Star Warrior! photo: Jon Simmes

Jushin Liger and Scott Steiner are a mutual admiration society. photo: Koichi Yoshizawa

Misty Blue & Cindy Paradise enjoyed a rare day off! photo: Jon Simmes

Pixs of your fightin' favorites!

Rising rookie star, Skull von Kruss, posed with mighty mat mite, Little Louie. photo: Al Marshall

Susan Sexton always stays in top fighting form.

MIKE'S MAILBAG

Send your questions, comments & opinions to:
Michael O'Hara, Publisher
New Wave Wrestling
P.O. Box 9035, Grand Station, Dept, MM
Long Island City, NY 11103–9991

Dear Mike:

I enjoy reading ***New Wave Wrestling*** so much that I traveled two hours from my home to pick up a copy of issue number eight. I would like to comment on your Jake Roberts article on page 41.

You stated that Jake's parents are Nick "Grizzly" Smith and Lauren Johnson, and that Baby Doll is his sister. I thought that Jake was the son of Aurelian "Grizzly" Smith, Senior and his wife's name is Marsha. Isn't Baby Doll the daughter of Nick Roberts and Lauren Johnson? Baby Doll was married to Sam Houston, who (if I'm correct) is Jake's brother. This cannot be true if Sam and Baby Doll are brother and sister by your information. Could you please clear up the confusion for me!

In answer to Robert Condrey's question in the same issue, Ole Anderson's real name is Alan Rogowski, and I don't think he's related to Ric Flair, Gene Anderson, or Brad Anderson.

Thanks.

Eric Shaffer
Montgomery, PA

Mike's memo: Have no fear, Eric. You're not confused. I am!!! But seriously, you're 100% correct about Jake and his wrestling family tree. I confused Baby Doll, who was married to Sam Houston, with the former WWF Ladies' champion, Rockin' Robin, who is the sister of Jake and Sam. Many thanks for tagging in with that information.

Dear Mike:

Recently, I was lucky enough to buy a copy of your wonderful magazine for the very first time. We do not get many overseas sports magazines here. I found it to be very informative and very interesting.

I am an avid wrestling fan. We have a pay TV channel here in South Africa, but it is not very often that we get to see professional wrestling. The main sports are tennis, soccer, rugby, and cricket. We've been fortunate to see Wrestlemanias over the past three years, but that's not enough to whet the appetite of the multitude of fans here.

We had the Survivor Series televised some time ago, and I am totally fascinated by Mark Callaway (the Undertaker). I would like to know if he has a fan club or a mailing address in which I can personally correspond with him? I am very keen on obtaining an autographed photo of him.

Our local promoters often try to get the top American wrestlers to appear in our rings, but most of the time, they are unsuccessful because their fees are very high. Two years ago, we were very lucky to have Davey Boy Smith, the British Bulldog himself, competing in South Africa. I met him, and I found that he was charming.

I am also keen on having pen pals from the U.S.A. I would like to know how I would go about this.

Kindest Regards,
Cheryl Kibur
B 3 Bay Point
Stanley Place
Three Anchor Bay, 8001
Cape Town
Republic of South Africa

Mike's memo: Many thanks for your kind words, Cheryl. We've listed your address here so that all of our *New Wavers* could see it, and then be able to correspond with you. It seems as if we get a dozen or so letters per week asking for an address to contact the Undertaker. Please send all correspondence in care of:

Titan Sports
P.O. Box 3857
Stamford, CT 06905

Dear Mike and all of the ***New Wave Gang,***

Firstly, I'd like to say how much I love your magazine. I've picked up every issue since the first, but it's been difficult to find it here lately, so I'm writing to subscribe. I don't want to miss a single issue!

J.P. O'Brien
Waterford, Ireland

Mike's memo: Thanks, J.P. The best way to keep your collection complete is with a subscription. For those hold-outs who haven't made the *New Wave* commitment, see our inside back cover for more details.

Dear Michael O'Hara:

In your seventh issue, your article on the Undertaker contained information that was incorrect.

The Undertaker's real name is Mark Calaway, not Callaway. He is 27 years old, not 31. He weighs 328 pounds. Mark is six-foot-ten, and one-half inches tall, not six-foot-eight.

When Mark wrestled in WCW, he was known as "Mean" Mark Callous, not Callis.

Also, the Undertaker fought Hulk Hogan after he put the Ultimate Warrior in the coffin.

Sincerely,
The Undertaker's #1 fan,
Rosemary Russomano
Belleville, NJ

Mike's memo: No other sport has the least accurate statistics as professional wrestling. I would have to know what your sources were to agree with your claims. Our stats are usually compiled from records held by various promoters and state athletic commissions, which is not to say that they're always 100% correct either. I'd say our stats are pretty accurate on Mark.

As for the use of the name "Mean" Mark Callis, we found, after looking at dozens of newspaper ads, that there were actually four spellings used—Callis, Callous, Callas, and Callos (I've only seen the latter used three times). I went with Callis because it seemed the most prevalent. Anyway, it was a fake name, Rosemary, so lighten up—SHEESH!

Okay! Okay! Ya´ got me on the coffin thing.

SIDE-HEADLOCK:

We will withhold your name and hometown at the end of your letter upon request.

PINFORMATION

Send your questions to:
Michael O'Hara, Publisher
New Wave Wrestling
P.O. Box 9035, Grand Station, Dept. Pinfo
Long Island City, NY 11103-9991

Dear Mike:

I would like to thank you for expanding the International Slams, adding the Pinfomation column (which I was patiently waiting for), and the Independent Scene, which lets me know all about the upcoming stars. Overall, every month, this mag keeps getting better and better. How about expanding the Newsreel section?

I know that you're always busy coming up with the best new features, but I would love for you to put in a column that would provide the win/loss record of particular feuds.

It's really burning me up that I live so far away, and I can't see these matches since the WWF and WCW don't show their programs here.

Some suggested feuds to analyze would include: Boss Man vs. Nailz, Jerry Lawler vs. Eddie Gilbert, the Heavenly Bodies vs. the Rock & Roll Express, etc.

This would allow fans in England, the Caribbean, and elsewhere an opportunity to find out more about what's going on. Please give it a try, and see what you think.

One last point—Afa is the manager of the Headshrinkers, Samu and Fatu. What Samoan team held the WWF titles in the 1980s? What Samoan combination was managed by Paul E. Dangerously in WCW? Were the Samoan Savage and Sika ever a part of the Samoan Swat Team? Which Samoan used to team with Haku?

Wayne Reid
Barbados, West Indies

Mike's memo: Thanks, Wayne, for your many letters over the past few months. As you can see, we are trying to squeeze more and more information into our mighty mat mag with each passing month. The win/loss grudge feud is an interesting idea. Most feuds usually wind up being one-sided as was the case with our Hogan-Flair record in issue number one. Hulk won most of 'em, so it makes for a repetitive read.

If more *New Wavers* are interested in this sort of thing, I'll be happy to include it. What do you say, gang?

The brother team of Afa and Sika Anoai, competing as the Wild Samoans, were the famed WWF tag-team champions of the 1980s.

Samu and Fatu were Paul E. Dangerously's Samoan Swat Team in WCW. Sika was never a member of the SST. Haku used to team with Siva Afi, a talented Polynesian star, who has confined most of his recent ring activity to Australia, New Zealand, and the Polynesian Islands.

Dear Michael:

First of all, I would like to say thank you for placing my name in the pen-pal section of the best magazine in the world!

I am wondering if you can provide the address of the Hulk Hogan Fan Club. I am a very big fan of the Hulk, and I would love to join his fan club. I have written to many newspapers and magazines, but they say he doesn't have one. You said that you were the club president back in your first issue. Please help me as you're my last hope.

Jody Hatchell
Manchester, England

Mike's memo: Sorry, Jody, but there is no longer a Hulk Hogan Fan Club. I began a fan club for the Hulkster in December of 1979, and it ran until the mid-1980s. Since then, there hasn't been one.

Dear Mike:

Thanks for all of your great work. What ever happened to the following: Demolition (Ax, Smash, and Crush), Zeus, and what ever happened to Hulk Hogan's movie "Rough Stuff?"

Ezennwa Heobu
Dahlenburg, Germany

Mike's memo: Smash (Barry Darsow) is now wrestling in the WWF as Repo Man. Crush (Bryan Adams) is also wrestling in the WWF as....Crush. Ax (Bill Eadie) continues to wrestle as Demolition Ax on the indie wrestling shows throughout the Northeastern portion of the United States. Zeus (Tom "Tiny" Lister) can still be seen in various television roles as a character actor. Hulk's movie, originally called *Rough Stuff*, was given a limited release under the name *Mister Nanny*. It should be on video by the time you read this.

Dear Mike,

I really want to thank you for publishing ***New Wave Wrestling*** It is my favorite wrestling magazine on the newsstands today.

Since you do provide great facts and history on the wrestlers, I hope you can give me some information on two of my favorites—"Iron" Mike Sharpe and Steve "the Brooklyn Brawler" Lombardi.

I wish you continued success with your magazine.

Sue Joy
Poughkeepsie, NY

Mike's memo: I hope to interview "Iron" Mike in the near future. He's truly one of the most underappreciated performers of the past fifteen years. A Steve Lombardi profile is something that I'll piece together somewhere down the line. Thanks, Sue.

Dear Mike:

My question is unusual, and I wonder if you can help me. I was wondering if it would be possible to run a small, local wrestling promotion exclusively showcasing teenagers.

Baseball has little league, so does football and basketball, so why not pro-wrestling?

Do you think this is a good idea, and would it be successful? Keep up the good work. ***New Wave Wrestling*** is great!

Douglas Dearborn
Stratford, CT

Mike's memo: The very nature of professional wrestling involves potential injury or the premeditated intent to injure an opponent. I would think that you would be opening a legal can of worms trying to promote youngsters in an exhibition in which their chances of serious injury are much greater than the controlled competitive environments of baseball, basketball, and even football. If our younger *New Wavers* want to get out there and wrestle, they should do it on an amateur level.

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SANTO VS. THE VAMPIRE WOMEN (1961) – Need we say more?

SANTO IN THE WAX MUSEUM (1963) – A scientist is turning people into wax figures.

SANTO'S SECRET CARIBBEAN MISSION (1968) – Santo vs. drug dealers. (IN SPANISH - NO SUBTLS.)

SANTO VS. THE STRANGLER (1964) – The Strangler is on a murder spree! (IN SPANISH - NO SUBTLS.)

SANTO VS. BLUE DEMON IN ATLANTICA (1968) – Mexico's two ring greats team together to stop an undersea monarch! (IN SPANISH)

SANTO & BLUE DEMON IN THE WORLD OF THE DEAD – Wrestling's dynamic duo clash with a ruthless gang of zombie robbers! (IN SPANISH)

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SUPER WRESTLING ALL-STARS Vol. 2 – Samoans, One Man Gang & Skandor Akbar attack Ernie Ladd; Iron Sheik vs. King Kobra; North American Title – Ted DiBiase vs. Paul Orndorff; Samoans vs. Rick Ferrara & Bill Ash; Louisiana Title – JYD vs. Bob Roop (Orton & Orndorff in Roop's corner).

SUPER WRESTLING ALL-STARS Vol. 3 – Jimmy Garvin (with Precious) vs. Billy Brooks; Steve Regal & Jim Garvin attack Wahoo McDaniel; Louisiana Title – JYD vs. The Grappler; Mississippi Title – Bob Orton (with Samoans & Orndorff in his corner) vs. Mike George (with Dusty Rhodes & JYD in his corner); Dusty Rhodes brawls with Paul Orndorff & Bob Orton; "Easy" Ed Wiskowski & Bob Orton vs. Ted DiBiase & Mr. Olympia; JYD vs. Masked Terry Orndorff (Shane Douglas), with Paul Orndorff & Bob Orton in Terry's corner.

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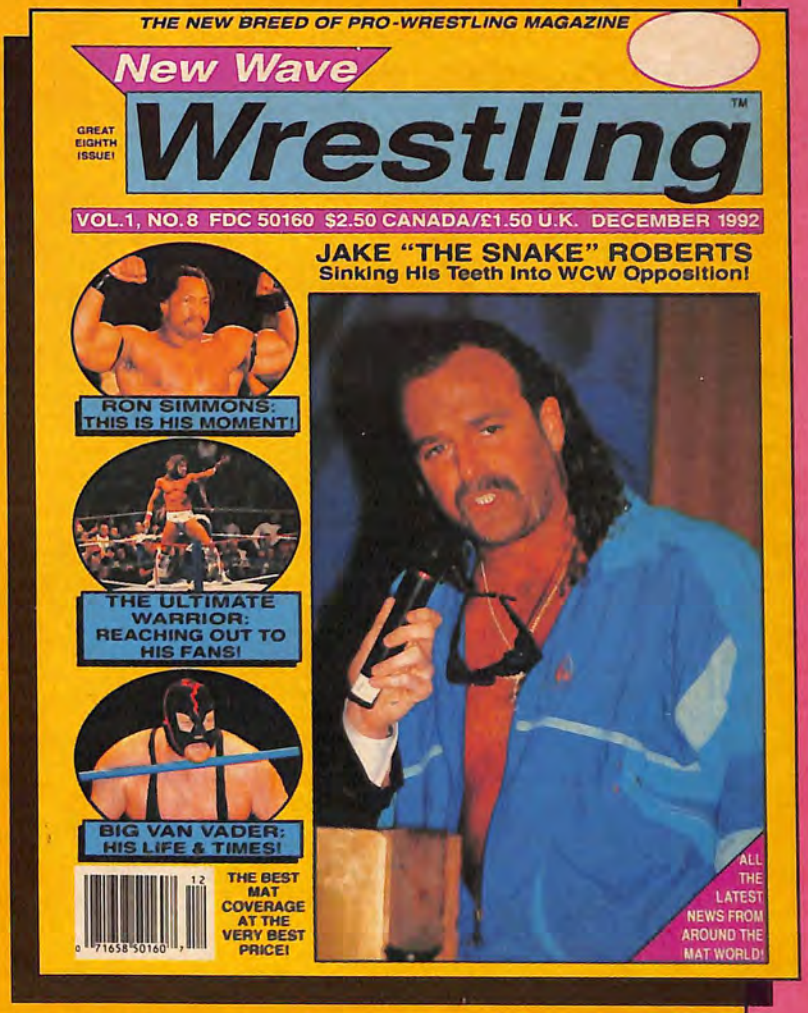

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(page 39)